

All-out strike call by miners in Yorkshire

Dismissal threat by British Coal

By Roland Radd

The coal industry was yesterday heading into its most damaging confrontation since the year-long 1984-85 strike after North Yorkshire miners' leaders recommended an all-out strike from Monday.

The move came after British Coal had threatened striking miners in South Yorkshire with dismissal if they did not return to work immediately. In a crucial meeting at Kellingley, the North Yorkshire NUM officials unanimously backed their striking colleagues.

Fit-head branch meetings of the 16,000 miners in the North Yorkshire coalfield, from Barnsley to the new

Selby pit complex, are today expected to back the strike call despite British Coal's warning that miners could be sacked if they stay out on strike.

Mr Albert Tuke, the North Yorkshire director of British Coal, appealed to his miners to "come to their senses" and reject the strike call. "It will be

Yorkshire mentality of 'walk first, talk later' will not be tolerated any more. Miners who continue to act in this way could find themselves walking back to a closed pit. The men have got to realize that the industry has to stand by itself and action like this, which costs us millions of pounds, only jeopardizes their jobs."

However, Mr Jack Taylor, Yorkshire NUM president, appealed to management to drop the controversial disciplinary code and hold talks with the NUM. "All that's needed is for people to get round a table. The men are willing to be a party to a negotiated procedure" he said.

Mr Taylor appealed to British Coal not to treat his men with "contempt" or the industry would continue to "go backwards when it could go forward". He added: "Unfortunately at last week's conference it was realized that sooner or later something was going to happen. The miners want to be part of this industry - they are the industry - but they are not going to have this forced on them."

Mr Taylor was making his first comment in more than 48 hours when he visited an appeal tribunal for the sacked branch secretary at Stillingfleet, Mr Ted Scott.

No decision about Mr Scott's future will be made until next week by the chairman, but miners are angry about his dismissal which they say took place under the new disciplinary code.

British Coal says that Mr Scott was dismissed for industrial misconduct after receiving two clear previous written warnings. Union officials have said that if his appeal failed miners would strike until he was reinstated. British Coal have seven days on which to consider the evidence put forward at the appeal hearing.

Angry miners 2
Run-up to dispute 2

a tragedy if North Yorkshire miners go on strike on Monday," he said.

Meanwhile, South Yorkshire's 14,000 miners were warned by British Coal that their action could lead to dismissal. The warning was given in a copy of a letter sent to 900 miners at the Frickley colliery where the dispute started.

The manager of the colliery, Mr Tony Lawson, said: "Frickley cannot afford action of this kind. I would be failing in my duty if I allowed the stoppage to continue without making it clear that the strike action is a serious breach of your contract of employment that will lead to disciplinary action and this may include dismissal."

It was not clear last night if the warning of dismissal was also directed at 13,000 miners who have been prevented from going to work by flying pickets. But a spokesman from British Coal said the warning, which was issued with the authority of Sir Robert Haslam, the British Coal chairman, should be headed by every miner on strike since "not turning up to work whether it is because you are on strike or you have been picketed out, it is still a breach of contract".

The spokesman further warned the miners that British Coal was determined to "lay down a marker over the strike action". He added: "The

Guinness man must repay £5m

A High Court judge yesterday ordered Mr Thomas Ward, a former director of Guinness, to repay £5.2 million paid to him out of the company's funds under a secret agreement not disclosed to the Guinness board.

The Vice-Chancellor, Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, also ordered him to pay interest of almost £700,000, as well as Guinness's legal costs.

Last night Mr Ward's solicitors said he would appeal. But they added that in the meantime Mr Ward would be handing over £2 million (£1.24 million) cash to Guinness on Monday, as well as transferring his entitlement to a further \$5.1 million of assets to the company.

In its efforts to recover the money, Guinness has sued Mr Ward and Mr Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chairman, through the Jersey courts, and obtained asset-freezing orders against both men in the High Court.

Sir Nicolas ruled that Mr Ward had no arguable defence, since the agreement to pay him £5.2 million had not been disclosed to the Guinness board.

Details, page 23

US challenge

Paul Azinger of the US took the lead in the second round of the Open Championship at Muirfield. Page 44

Exam passes

Degrees announced by the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and further Oxford class lists are published today. Page 39

Portfolio Gold

£12,000 can be won in today's Times Portfolio Gold competition - the £8,000 weekly prize and £4,000 daily prize. Portfolio list, page 27; weekly check, page 36. © Four readers shared yesterday's prize, which was doubled to £8,000. Details, page 3.

INDEX

Home News	2-4
Overseas	5-7
Business	23-27
Sport	40-44
Arts	18, 19
Births, deaths, marriages	11
Bridge	19
Chess	19
Church	11
Court	19
Crosswords	19, 22
Diary	12
Entertainment	11
Family Money	29-36
Features	8, 13-20
Information	20
Law Report	39
Leading articles	38
Legal, financial services	38
Letters	9
Obituary	10
Parliament	41
Religion	10
Sale Room	10
Science	11
TV & Radio	38
University results	22
Weather	22

Prime Minister lauds Reagan as great leader



Mrs Thatcher with Mr George Bush, the US Vice President, in Washington yesterday.

Thatcher and US threaten Gulf arms ban

From Philip Webster, New York

America and Britain agreed yesterday that an arms embargo should be imposed on Iran and Iraq if they ignore the United Nations call for a ceasefire.

After two hours of talks at the White House President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher agreed that the time had come for a new effort to end the war.

The two leaders agreed that the United Nations Secretary General, Mr Pérez de Cuellar, should personally undertake a peace mission to achieve that end.

Mr Reagan - praised earlier by Mrs Thatcher as a great leader - said: "If either or both of the warring parties refuse the UN call for a cessation of arms embargo should be brought to bear on those who reject this chance to end a bloody and senseless conflict."

The two leaders moved closer to agreeing an international peace conference on the Middle East conflict. America has so far been reluctant to commit itself because of divisions in the Israel Government about the desirability of such a conference and its own reluctance to see the Soviet Union involved.

Mrs Thatcher said in a statement afterwards that she and the President had seen an opportunity to take a major step forward in the peace process and had committed themselves to work for it.

She said that they had explored how an international conference might contribute to bringing about such negotiations, although she made clear that it would not have

the right to impose solutions or veto an agreement reached by the parties.

Mrs Thatcher had earlier made an unprecedented appeal to the American people to drop their obsession with the Iran-Iraq war and to prevent it undermining President Reagan's leadership of the Western world.

In a series of nationwide television interviews before her talks with Mr Reagan at the White House, the Prime Minister tried to boost him during his domestic difficulties by paying the most fulsome tributes to his personal qualities and leadership standing.

She denied that his international authority was being weakened by the Iran-Contra affair or that he had become a lame duck president. And she warned America not to be deflected from exercising leadership on the big world stage.

She spoke of Mr Reagan as a great leader, and said that she trusted him absolutely. It was a support operation which astonished some American observers but it reflected Mrs Thatcher's anxieties that progress towards an East-West arms deal and a Middle East peace settlement should not be hindered in the last 18 months of Mr Reagan's presidency.

Mr Reagan repaid the compliments, saying: "It is no secret that I personally admire the Prime Minister and that we share a common faith in freedom and enterprise. She is a strong and principled leader in the international arena."

Continued on page 22, col 6

BAA share fraud suspected

By Ray Heath

Hundreds of suspected cases of illegal multiple applications have been uncovered by accountants policing the privatization of BAA.

Price Waterhouse, which is using a sophisticated computer programme to vet the names of applicants, has found 40 or 50 possible rings of shares who have attempted to increase the number of shares they are allotted in the heavily over-subscribed issue by putting in more than one form.

At least one case involving the use of more than 400 names has been uncovered.

A spokesman for Price Waterhouse gave a warning that names of those people whom the computer could prove had made multiple share applications would be passed on to the Fraud Squad.

The number of applications for the BAA issue will be announced today by Mr Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Transport. He will also announce the basis on which they will be allocated.

The heavy demand will mean investors for the fixed-price issue will have their applications scaled down. A ballot is also possible.

The basis of allocation for the tender issue will not be revealed until next Tuesday. The premium over the full issue price of 245p remained steady at 45p on the unofficial grey market in BAA shares.

Airlines demand monopoly inquiry on B-Cal merger

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Several independent airlines decided yesterday to demand formally that the proposed merger between British Airways and British Caledonian be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Executives of the airlines, understood to include Britishair, Monarch, British Midland, Orion, Air UK, Air Europe and British Island Airways, decided at a breakfast meeting to press for a reference to the commission.

However at least one airline, Dan-Air, is thought to be undecided.

There is some sympathy amongst independent operators with British Airways' argument that the two companies need to merge in order to compete with the biggest United States airlines.

However there is widespread concern about the impact on short-haul and European routes, and on operations from Gatwick and Heathrow airports.

Services from the two airports have until now been seen as being in competition. But if B-Cal becomes part of British Airways it would mean that a single airline would dominate both airports.

Mr Michael Bishop, chairman of British Midland Airways, which operates services out of Heathrow, said that the merger should proceed on the basis of conditional approval

Baker unveils new curriculum body

By John Clare and Sarah Thompson

A new body, which will include representatives of industry and commerce, is to be set up to develop the Government's proposed national curriculum for state schools.

Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced yesterday that the new body, called the National Curriculum Council, would be "broadly representative". It would ensure that the curriculum would not be thought up "by a small group of Civil Servants" but would be arrived at "by a very public and open process".

Membership of the council has not been settled. Teachers' organizations and local authorities will be invited to offer suggestions, but the appointment of members will rest entirely with Mr Baker himself, said the Department of Education and Science.

He is expected to invite prominent industrialists to play a key role in forming the curriculum.

It was announced last week. Continued on page 22, col 1

Full spy contempt hearing ordered

The Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, said yesterday it was for the courts and not the newspapers to decide where the public interest lay when it came to publishing confidential information.

He was giving his full reasons in the Court of Appeal for overturning the High Court ruling which cleared three newspapers of charges of contempt of court for publishing extracts from *Spycatcher*, the memoirs of the former MI5 member, Mr Peter Wright, when an order preventing publication was already in force against *The Guardian* and *The Observer*.

Sir John, sitting with Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Balcombe, said the contempt charges brought by the Attorney General against *The Independent*, *The London Daily News* and *The London Evening Standard* must now go back to the High Court for hearing.

He refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords but left the costs to be decided by the judge who hears the case.

Sir John said that confidential information was irretrievably damaged by every publication "and the more widespread the publication, the greater the damage".

The public interest in ensuring the disputes were resolved

justly might require a different balance at different stages. But pending a full trial the balance would normally be in favour of preserving confidentiality.

Sir John added: "It is for the courts, and not for either of the opposing parties to decide where in the public interest that balance lies."

Third parties who know that court orders had been made to protect confidentiality "commit a serious offence against justice itself if they take action which will damage or destroy the confidentiality which the court is seeking to protect and so render the due process of law ineffectual".

The conduct of the three newspapers could constitute a criminal contempt, but it was impossible to say until they had been given an opportunity to be heard. Law report, page 39



Sir John Donaldson: For courts not papers to decide.

Hit men 'sent to hunt ANC'

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

As many as 500 members of the outlawed African National Congress have been killed inside and outside South Africa in a "sustained blitz" against the black nationalist guerrilla organization, a leading newspaper here has claimed.

Business Day, South Africa's main daily financial journal, did not say over what period the killings had occurred, but alleged that many of the assassinations were the work of "hit men" suspected of acting as agents for the Pretoria Government.

The newspaper alleged that

shootings of suspected ANC members were "taking place almost daily countrywide" and were part of a new undercover campaign against the ANC.

Instead of the previous high-profile commando raids on neighbouring countries sheltering ANC personnel, often clumsily executed and attracting adverse publicity, the new strategy was to hire anonymous assassins who "picked off ANC targets at will", the paper said.

In Swaziland, an important infiltration route for the ANC, 11 top members of the

organizations' armed wing, *Umkhonto we Sizwe* (Spear of the Nation), have been killed this year. The two latest killings there - possibly timed to coincide with the talks in Senegal between the ANC and a white South African delegation - were on July 9. Mr Cassius Make, an executive member of the ANC, and Mr Paul Dikeledi, were gunned down in broad daylight by three white men in a South African-registered car.

Two black policemen and a suspected ANC guerrilla were killed on Thursday in a shoot-out in Ciskei.

France severs relations with Iran as crisis peaks

By Our Foreign Staff

The Franco-Iranian crisis came to a head yesterday when France severed diplomatic relations with Iran after taking the extraordinary step of preventing a group of 13 Iranians, including three diplomats, from leaving the country as they tried to cross the border into Switzerland.

The Iranians were stopped at the small Saint-Louis frontier post in the Haut-Rhin at 3.30 am. They were escorted in their cars, bearing diplomatic licence plates, back to their homes in the Paris suburbs as the French reinforced their ring of steel round the Iranian Embassy.

An iron grille was leaned against the entrance, and about 100 extra riot police, armed with automatic pistols

and bullet-proof vests, blocked all surrounding access roads and floodlighting the building to prevent anyone entering or leaving.

France has been maintaining a 24-hour guard there in an effort to catch Mr Wahid Gerdji, boled up for the past three weeks. He is wanted for questioning about his suspected involvement in last year's bombing campaign in Paris which killed 13 people and injured more than 200.

France has repeatedly made it clear over the past two weeks that there was no question of letting Mr Gerdji, who does not have diplomatic immunity, go free. The son of Ayatollah Khomeini's former doctor in France, he is suspected of being the head of the Iranian secret service in France.

The Government revealed yesterday that a ban on all Iranian diplomats leaving had been imposed last Saturday, following the Iranians' decision to prevent two French diplomats from leaving Iran.

Before the announcement of the diplomatic break, the Iranians imposed their own blockade on the French Embassy in Tehran, preventing all but the *charge d'affaires* from leaving or entering the building.

● This is only the fourth time since the war that France, which prides itself on always trying to keep dialogue open, has taken such a radical step against a foreign country, and that it was taken to pre-empt a similar move threatened by Iran (Diana Geddes writes from Paris).

The decision was taken after emergency discussions between M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, and M Jean-Bernard Raimond, the Foreign Minister, who was called back from an official visit to the Ivory Coast, and President Mitterrand, who apparently endorsed the move despite the obvious dangers it presents for both the French nationals in Iran and the French hostages being held by pro-Iranian groups in Beirut.

The Hezbollah, the Beirut-based pro-Iranian Muslim extremist group which is believed to be holding at least four of the five hostages, had already issued a statement on Thursday warning France that its current policies toward Iran would be "prejudicial to French interests throughout the Islamic world".

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NEWS SUMMARY

Hepatitis claims 25 BBC victims

An outbreak of hepatitis A has claimed 25 confirmed victims, including six from *The Archers*, the BBC radio series, at Broadcasting House in central London.

Some victims are said to be "quite ill", but an inquiry by the Environmental Health Department says the source has been traced.

Four actors and two senior producers from *The Archers* were the first to go down with the disease after attending a reception. A gathering of BBC regional news staff was held later which appears to have claimed most of the victims.

A BBC spokesman said it was hoped the problem was over.

The culprit appears to be a carrier either among the BBC's own catering staff, or one from outside caterers.

Sculpture 'a joke' Father's neglect

A 30ft scaffold tower with a black and white flag on top, commissioned by the new Tate Gallery, Liverpool, for £20,000, was described yesterday as a "sick joke".

The work, "Floating Square", by Daniel Buren, the French sculptor, rests on a floating platform at the big Albert Dock redevelopment.

Miss Rosemary Cooper, a Liberal councillor, who made the remark, said: "If it wasn't said it would be funny. Liverpool needs this so-called sculpture like it needs a hole in the head."

A father was found guilty of two neglect charges yesterday after his two children were killed by a hair drier which fell into their bath while he was out drinking.

Cardiff Crown Court was told that Michael Burcher, aged 39, found his son, Ben, aged 10 and the boy's half-sister, Aimee Jane Evans, aged four, dead in the bath.

Burcher, of Fair Oak Road, Roath, Cardiff, who denied the charges, was remanded in custody for sentence.

Two shot in Belfast

Two young Roman Catholic men were seriously wounded yesterday in separate shootings in west and east Belfast. The outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters telephoned the BBC in Belfast to claim responsibility for the first shooting, in which a youth aged 18 was hit at his home at Roden Square, west Belfast.

In the other shooting, a man aged 27 was the victim of a shotgun attack at work in the Beersbridge Road area of east Belfast.

Doctor fined

Dr Jennifer Colman-Archer, who has been struck off by the General Medical Council for abusing patients and colleagues, was fined £75 yesterday for assaulting a court bailiff.

Colman-Archer, aged 43, of Sandy Lane, Dereham, Norfolk, hit Mr Philip Plawston on the cheek and lip when he called at her home to inform her that her offer of £5 a month to pay off her debts was unacceptable. Norwich County Court was told.

Mr Claudius Algar, for the doctor, said she had been under great pressure.



Guardsman guilty

A Coldstream Guardsman who raped two women after giving them a tour of Buckingham Palace was jailed for eight years yesterday.

During the trial of Mark Wright, aged 21, of Wellington Barracks, a clairvoyant told the jury he had predicted both rapes and warned one of the victims a week before she was attacked. Wright denied both rapes, claiming the women consented to sexual intercourse.

Oxford sets out to gain from research

By Michael Dynes

Oxford University is to launch its own company in an attempt to retain some of the proceeds from research by scientists in its laboratories.

The company, called Oxford University Research and Development (Ourad), will register patents and license potential money-making ideas.

Mrs Jane Clarke, the university industrial liaison officer, said yesterday that Oxford had been looking at establishing its own company since the termination two years ago of the British Technology Group's monopoly on the rights to inventions by British universities.

A committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Patrick Neill, the university vice-chancellor, said that the company would give increased financial incentives to scientific researchers and provide

an additional source of funding for university research. Profits will be divided between the researchers and their departments, according to a formula worked out by the participants in each project.

Mrs Clarke said that the university spent £27 million a year on scientific research, much of which could have commercial applications.

The company, the first of its kind in Britain, reflects the university's determination to maintain its reputation as a centre of research excellence by securing new sources of funding.

The company, which will be formally announced when a managing director is appointed in the autumn, will also act as an advice agency for individual Oxford scientists contemplating the launch of their own companies.

Angry miners are 'ready to relive' 1984 strike

By Peter Davenport

In the old, red brick Miners' Institute in the main street of South Kirkby yesterday, the men who have brought British Coal to the brink of its most serious industrial dispute since the year-long strike in 1984 were in an uncompromising mood.

The morning post had brought a letter to each of the 900 strikers at the local Frickley colliery with the clear warning that they all face dismissal for their action.

But if British Coal had hoped it would force them to return to work it appeared to have miscalculated. The letter left the men feeling bitter and angry.

Among the group sheltering from the rain in the institute was one of the six miners

whose suspension started the dispute that has closed half of the Yorkshire coalfield and threatens to shut the rest by Monday.

"We all made sacrifices in the 1984 strike which many of us are still paying for. But if anybody thinks we haven't got the guts to go through it all again they would be wrong. British Coal seem to think they can just push us around but enough is enough. If we have to stay out another year to win this we can and we will", he said.

It was depressing talk for British Coal which has been relying on a dispute-free run to rebuild the industry after the last strike.

The morning's letter, from the colliery manager, Mr Tony Lawson, set out his side of the argument, but the last two

paragraphs angered the miners. They said:

"The plain fact we all have to face is that Frickley colliery cannot afford losses of this kind. I would be failing in my duty if I allowed the stoppage to continue without making it clear to you that strike action is a serious breach of your contract of employment; that it will lead to disciplinary action and this may include dismissal."

"I do not see this as part of any move towards 'jackboot' management, but because in today's world none of us can expect to continue to be employed on the basis that we may walk out when something happens that does not please us."

Copies of the letter were also sent to all 16,000 men at the South Yorkshire pits

which have been closed by the dispute.

The rapid spread of the dispute has taken British Coal officials by surprise.

The North Yorkshire area NUM panel has recommended that the 17,500 men at the 16 pits, including the showpiece Selby complex, should come out in support of South Yorkshire on Monday morning.

The union branches are meeting over the weekend, but even British Coal spokesmen yesterday said they expected the coalfield to be at a virtual standstill at the beginning of next week, although they insisted that some NUM men had gone into work at several South Yorkshire pits yesterday.

Senior management were yesterday anxiously trying to

counter the spread of the strike. Mr Albert Tuke, the area director for North Yorkshire, was writing to all the miners in his area enclosing a copy of the disputed code of conduct so they can read it and make up their own minds.

A special edition of more than 100,000 copies of the industry's newspaper *Coal News* was also being rush printed.

Yesterday Mr Tuke pulled no punches in describing the effect that a total strike will have on the industry in Yorkshire.

"It will be disastrous. We are fighting for the survival of the coal industry in the face of other forms of competition. The loss of Yorkshire coal is not going to enhance the progress of the coal industry or the miners."

He said it was "in-

comprehensible" that there could be a major dispute over the code of conduct. He was told that senior NUM officials had described it as "draconian".

"The NUM don't understand what draconian means. It goes back to ancient Greece and the laws of Draco which were supposed to have been very severe."

"It seems that anything British Coal wish to introduce is opposed by the union. I can't think of the last time they agreed to anything."

The NUM decided earlier this week to hold a national ballot on possible industrial action to oppose the controversial disciplinary code introduced by British Coal in March. The most likely action is expected to be an overtime ban.

A confident Owen takes on the role of peacemaker

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, yesterday confidently predicted a victory for his side in the party's ballot on whether to merge with the Liberals, due to be concluded on August 5.

But in a clear effort at damage limitation in the increasingly bitter internal dispute, he also emphasized that whichever way the ballot went he would still want a close working partnership with the Liberals.

"There is no way we are going to bust or smash the existing working partnership of Social Democrats and Liberals up and down the country", he said.

He accused his opponents of taking an all-or-nothing attitude which implied that if they did not get the merger they wanted then the result would be a bust-up between the parties. That is the counter point to the kind of worries

that his opponents have been voicing about Dr Owen.

The SDP leader has made it plain that he would play no part in a merged party but would be content to lead a small parliamentary group of MPs. This — and his sharp criticism of the Liberals on policy issues — had led to fears within the Alliance that in his determination to maintain a distinctive SDP voice he would seek, for example, to put up candidates at by-elections against a Liberal or merged Alliance candidate, so emphasizing continuing disunity.

But Dr Owen last night made it clear in a statement issued in Plymouth that he considered talk of "bust-up" or separation as the "old politics" which the SDP had come into existence to contest. "It is simply not in our interest for Social Democrats

or for Liberals to fight each other", he said.

Dr Owen also said that if his side won the ballot then they would keep open the option of formalizing a closer working relationship, short of merger, with the Liberals "sometime in the future".

Earlier, he said it was clear that Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, and the other members of the SDP's original Gang of Four — Mr Roy Jenkins, Mrs Shirley Williams and Mr Bill Rodgers — had ruled out the possibility of the two parties working closer together short of merger, the first option on the ballot paper.

He wished they had not done so because in rejecting the other option they were doing something far more dangerous. "They predict or threaten — depending on how one wishes to interpret their words — a bust-up or separation between Social Democrats and Liberals. That is a watershed which we as Social Democrats will not cross."

Dr Owen said that parties worked together all over Europe. "We have absolutely no intention whatever of breaking up a political partnership that has brought us both success in many parts of the country."

The "tough but tender" SDP leader showed a little more of the second quality than has been evident so far in the SDP ballot campaign by agreeing that there were people in the party who were sincere in their belief in a merger and promising that their views would be listened to with respect.

"If they decide to join the Liberal Party they will still be working with us in the future", he said.

Tories warned off Scottish assembly

Government concern at post-election pressure for a Scottish assembly emerged yesterday in a strong attack on the idea from Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary (Our Political Editor writes).

Admitting that devolutionist banners had been raised again and that some Conservatives seemed to have been "beguiled by the notion" of a Scottish assembly, Sir Geoffrey urged Scottish Tories to "keep their nerve".

After an election in which the Conservatives lost 11 of their 21 seats in Scotland, the Foreign Secretary said in a

speech in Drymen: "We have obviously to sell our programme better."

"We must show that we have heard what people are saying in their votes. But we must not cancel or change the direction of our policies."

He said many Scots may feel that they had not yet shared in Britain's economic recovery.

"We must recognize and understand that concern and we must respond — but not, surely, with something so utterly irrelevant to Scotland's needs as a tax-raising assembly in Edinburgh."

New minister backs role for nuclear power

By Robin Oakley

The Government's faith in nuclear power was underlined yesterday by Mr Michael Spicer, one of the new ministerial team at the Department of Energy.

In his first public speech in his new role as the responsible minister, Mr Spicer told a Confederation of British Industry conference that the Central Electricity Generating Board had estimated that without the existing nuclear power stations, electricity prices would have had to rise by 15 per cent last year.

In Scotland, electricity generated by means other than nuclear power was 25 per cent more expensive to produce.

Mr Spicer said that while there had been 344 deaths in the coal industry over the past decade, there had been just ten fatalities in the nuclear industry, not one caused by radiation.

Teachers seek tax relief on expenses

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Teachers are to seek tax relief for marking school books and preparing reports and lessons in their own homes.

The teaching unions claim that the new contracts imposed on them by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, give them new grounds for claiming the cost of heating, lighting, books, word processors and any other equipment needed for work after school hours.

Mr Hugh Pierce, senior solicitor for the National Union of Teachers, said yesterday that the contracts, under the Teachers' Pay and Conditions Act, state that teachers must work for additional hours beyond a basic 1,265 hours a year in discharging their professional duties.

Previous approaches to the Department of Inland Rev-

enue were rejected on the grounds that claimable expenses had to be "necessarily incurred in the performance of employment duty".

But without written contracts spelling out their duties, the teachers could not claim that working at home was necessary.

The NUT estimates that a secondary school teacher works for an average of 35 hours a week, including 2.5 hours of actual teaching. Teachers of the new GCSE 16-plus examination have complained about a big increase in workload because of the high proportion of continuous assessment.

Higher education lecturers can already make limited claims for home expenses. A-level teachers can claim for books and other items.

Agriculture minister plans to tour different regions

MacGregor pledges support for family farms

By John Young

Mr John MacGregor, Minister of Agriculture, yesterday pledged his support for the family farm, which he described as vital both for the environment and for the economic health of rural communities.

Mr MacGregor, who succeeded Mr Michael Jopling after last month's election, added that, contrary to public assumptions, the vast majority of farmers had never been rich.

"Most family farmers have never had anything other than modest incomes", he pointed out. "They may have large capital assets, but that is something quite different."

"One of the things I want to do while I am in office is to get

across to the public some of the realities of farming."

That commitment will certainly be welcomed by the farming community who have greeted their new minister with high expectations, coupled with some uneasiness about whether a former Chief Secretary to the Treasury might be a bit too zealous in looking for ways to cut government support.

But Mr MacGregor made it clear that support for small farmers would not extend to the "almost philosophical commitment" of West German governments to keeping people on the land at all costs.

"We must not do anything that will reduce the efficiency of British farming", he said.

"I am fully committed to

keeping the family farm, but I don't think that we should automatically follow the German pattern. After all, 40 per cent of German farmers are part-time."

Special concessions, such as low interest loans for farmers, as operated in some other European countries, would be very difficult, he said.

During his time at the Department of Industry and at the Treasury, he had received similar requests from small businessmen, retailers and other groups.

But any such concessions involved a subsidy, which was a questionable use of taxpayers' money, and it was difficult to ensure that the loans would be applied for the purposes for which they were granted.

Mr MacGregor intends to spend much of the parliamentary recess touring the main farming regions of Britain, starting in the West Country next week.

The need to take substantial areas of farmland, possibly as much as 700,000 hectares (1,750,000 acres) out of production during the next few years carried considerable implications, he pointed out.

Lowland producers, forced out of cereal growing could be expected to switch to livestock, with a consequent knock-on effect on hill farmers, which was why he backed the continuation of EEC financial support for upland farming.

He conceded that much of the acclaim with which his appointment had been greeted was a result of the unpopular-

ity of his predecessor, who received an almost unanimous vote of no confidence at the National Farmers' Union Annual Meeting last February.

But he defended Mr Jopling's record. "Michael has been greatly under-estimated", he said.

"He really did draw the short straw in coming in at a time when big changes had to be made."

"I think he achieved a changed consensus, and the lead he gave to the EEC Council of Ministers about the need for reforms was very considerable."

"One of my advantages in taking office now is that everyone is very much more aware of the need to reduce surpluses. I am very excited about the job."

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Loans rise
with boom
in prices
Backing

The Jeffrey Archer libel case Wife denies claim by prostitute on husband's 'spots'

By Paul Valley

Mrs Mary Archer was called back to the witness box in the High Court yesterday to give evidence in her husband Jeffrey's libel case about the condition of the skin on his back.

Mr Archer, the former deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, is suing *The Star* over a claim that he slept with a prostitute, Miss Monica Coghlan.

Earlier Miss Coghlan had said in evidence that when she was in bed with the man she recognized as Mr Archer, she noticed the skin on his back was rough and spotty.

Yesterday Mr Archer's counsel, Mr Robert Alexander, QC, asked Mrs Archer to describe the condition of Mr Archer's back.

Mrs Archer said: "Jeffrey has an excellent skin, sir. He has no spots or blemishes anywhere."

Mrs Archer said that in September last year, when Mr Archer is alleged to have seen Miss Coghlan, the family had come back from a fortnight's holiday in the Aegean. Her husband had a lightly tanned back from the sun, and a very white part around his midriff.

Mr Alexander asked her: "Can you say whether or not the difference in colour between those parts of his body exposed to the sun and those where his shorts would have been would have been very noticeable?" Mrs Archer replied: "Very noticeable."

Mr Alexander then said: "He had no spots on his back?" Mrs Archer replied: "No, sir."

Mr Alexander then put the final question in the evidence heard during the 10 days of the trial so far, asking Mrs Archer: "What was the colour of the car you owned then?"



Mrs Archer, who gave evidence about her husband.

"It was a darkish grey, sir," she replied.

The evidence closed without the editor or any member of the *Star* staff saying one word in its defence.

Mr Alexander had to content himself instead with a cross examination of Mr David Montgomery, the former editor of the *News of the World*, which first disclosed that Mr Archer had tried to pay a large sum of money to Miss Coghlan.

Mr Archer's libel suit against that newspaper is apparently not due to be heard until 1989; he chose to sue *The Star* first because it stated more directly that he had a sexual relationship with Miss Coghlan.

Yesterday Mr Alexander reviewed in court *The Star* coverage of the trial, which is to be the subject of a claim for aggravated damages. Of nine days of stories, six had been front page splash about the trial. He asked Mr Montgomery:

Jeffrey has an excellent skin. He has no spots or blemishes anywhere

ery how much a paper like *The Star* would normally have to spend on six front page stories.

But when he attempted to introduce figures about the profits of United Newspapers, which owns *The Star*, the judge, Mr Justice Caultfield, upheld an objection from *The Star*'s counsel, Mr Michael Hill, QC.

Mr Alexander proceeded with an attack on the general standards of the *News of the World* which, he said, specialized in scandals about sex and royalty.

Mr Alexander asked Mr Montgomery about the lies and deceptions involved in the paper's methods of investigation, including its briefing Miss Coghlan to lie to Mr Archer in five telephone calls which it initiated and secretly recorded.

At one point his questions became so pointed that the judge intervened to say: "Mr Alexander, ask the questions — try not to rebuke the witness."

For some time Mr Montgomery maintained, as his reporter Mr John Lisners had

claimed the day before, that the original story (which disclosed the pay-off but which did not directly allege that sexual intercourse had taken place) was not written with deliberate ambiguity to avoid the possibility of legal action.

"We wrote what we were 100 per cent sure of, what our journalists had seen," he said.

But then he was questioned on the paper's leading article the same day which had called Mr Archer a "monumental fool" and said: "To err is one thing, to cover up is another, to be caught covering up is the end."

In what way had Mr Archer erred, counsel asked: "You were suggesting that he had erred by sleeping with the prostitute."

Mr Montgomery said: "Yes, indeed. There would be no other reason for paying off the prostitute if he hadn't slept with her. I think that that is the conclusion they (the readers) would draw."

Later three more journalists entered the witness box and repeated statements given to them by Mr and Mrs Archer at the time the story broke but which contradicted evidence the couple had subsequently given in court.

Mr Norman Luck, of the *Daily Express*, said that on the day the first article was published Mrs Archer had told him that the prostitute had been asking for money from her husband — something the family has since denied.

Mr Tony Dawe, then of the *Daily Express*, testified that Mr Archer had told him that he had been at a function for 50 people, had then seen the Government Chief Whip, Mr John Wakeham, and then had driven home a colleague from Conservative Central Office on the night he was supposed to have been with the prostitute.

Mr Nicholas Constable, of *Today*, said he was told about the same time by Mr Archer that he had been in a meeting on the night in question. Mr Archer's alibi in court was that he was in the Caprice restaurant with publishing contacts.

The case continues on Tuesday with the closing speech by Mr Hill. The court is not sitting on Monday because a juror has to attend a funeral.

Serenade for far-off shores



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, joining the Chamber Choir of Christ's Hospital School, Horsham, when they sang before 300 Church of England missionaries at yesterday's annual garden party at Lambeth Palace (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Medical science crisis

Trust gives £3 million to aid research

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The Wellcome Trust is so concerned about the crisis in British science that it is offering £3 million to attract graduates into medical research.

During the next three years the trust will pay for more than 30 outstanding students in the final year of their degree courses to follow on into PhD research projects.

The Wellcome trustees have allowed for a tax-free stipend of £4,000 a year, plus a £600 London allowance, over three years, together with up to

£2,000 a year for fees and research.

This is a higher level than the usual grants, set by the Department of Education and Science at £2,859 with a London allowance of £643.

A trust spokesman said yesterday that the scheme was to encourage the best young scientists to embark upon research.

The trustees believe the low pay and inadequate support for research costs have reduced the number of outstanding PhD graduates.

Welcoming the initiative, the Save British Science

organization said that it demonstrated the pitance on which graduates had to live if they chose to pursue academic research rather than take a stinging salary of perhaps £18,000 in the City.

Some research workers at Oxford University are working for nothing and living on supplementary benefits.

Dr John Mulvey, of Oxford's department of nuclear physics and a member of the Save British Science group, said that the careers of many young scientists were cut short or disrupted because science departments could not afford to pay their wages.

Labour's 'unity' behind 62% rise

Three Labour councillors from the London borough of Waltham Forest yesterday explained that party unity lay behind their vote for a 62 per cent rate rise.

They told the High Court that they put allegiance to their party before their personal feelings about what was best for ratepayers.

They had voted for the rise although they individually opposed it.

One councillor, Mr Jo Brind, wearing a pink rose in his lapel, told the court that he regarded the rates system as "a regressive tax against the principles for which the Labour Party stands".

But party unity came first and last March he voted for the unpopular increase, proposed by the Labour group, which led to town hall demonstrations by thousands of ratepayers.

Two other councillors, Mrs Vi Smith and Mr Jeffery Miles, agreed that party unity was paramount and had also reached the same decision.

All three were giving evidence on the fifth day of an application by the Waltham Forest Ratepayers' Action Group for court orders quashing what they described as an "irrationally high" rate.

Mr Miles was asked by Lord Justice Glidewell, sitting with Mr Justice Schiemann, why he thought unity was important.

He said: "Without unity — you may think I am exaggerating — local government would descend into a chaotic situation and detract from effective and strong local government."

The hearing continues on Monday.

Portfolio — Gold — Winner celebrates a double

An accountant who retires in two weeks started celebrating early yesterday when he was named as one of the four winners sharing the £8,000 prize in the Portfolio Gold competition.

Mr Jack Blogg, who works for Freightliners, the container company, will put his winnings towards a holiday in Yugoslavia for himself and his wife, Mary.

Mr Blogg, aged 62, of St Andrews Road, Rochford, Essex, will also use the money to help to buy a new Rover car for his retirement.

Mr William Pawley, aged 78, a reader of *The Times* for 40 years, intends to buy a couple of armchairs with his winnings. He and his wife, Freda, from Penge, south London, have ruled out taking a holiday with their prize because they have six cats and two dogs.

A third winner was Dr Peter Stachura, a reader in modern history at Stirling University.

"I have never won anything in my life before, not even a threepenny raffle and so this is grand news," Dr Stachura, of Ashcroft Chilton Road, Bridge of Allan, near Stirling, said.

The fourth winner, Mr Simon Wetton, aged 22, a stockbroker, of Silvertown Road, Fulham, south-west London, intends to put his £2,000 towards the deposit of the house he is buying in the area.

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Damages win for footballer

Peter Beardsley, the footballer, won "substantial" damages yesterday over an article in the *Evening Chronicle*, Newcastle, by its editor, Mr Graeme Stanton.

At the High Court in Newcastle, Mr Stanton and the *Chronicle* and *Journal* admitted the attack on the former Newcastle United striker had been unwarranted, and withdrew the allegations.

Rare bird shot

A rare peregrine falcon chicken was shot and badly injured in the Wye valley yesterday. The bird was one of four hatched in a nest at Symonds Yat three months ago.

Loans rise with boom in prices

Lending by building societies to home-buyers passed the £3 billion mark last month for the first time this year as the nationwide house price boom continued.

Figures from the Building Societies Association released yesterday show that mortgage advances totalled £3,157 million in June, the highest since October last year.

A further £3,402 million was promised to applicants, the most since last August.

In the wake of the drop in borrowing costs at the beginning of May and in expectation of Mrs Thatcher's third election win, the year-on-year increase in prices rose from 12.9 per cent at the end of April to 14.1 per cent at the end of May, according to the association's figures.

Societies also had a good month on the savings front in June, despite the drain on accounts for the second call on British Gas shareholders.

Net receipts were £556 million in June, which is about average for the year so far.

Today's figures show that £7,412 million was paid into building society accounts last month and £6,856 million was withdrawn.

Beer and tobacco prices set to rise

By Derek Harris

Price rises in most tobacco and beer products were signalled yesterday as breweries brought in increases in the North and higher cigar prices were notified.

It could mean up to 2p on packets of 20 cigarettes and between 2p and 4p on a pint of ale or lager.

Imperial Tobacco, part of Hanson Trust, announced cigar price increases from the middle of next month which will add 2p to 3p to packs of five and six small cigars and 2p each to those of panatella and half corona size.

Other manufacturers are expected to follow suit.

There was increasing trade speculation that cigarette prices will also rise. Usually this happens within weeks of a round of cigar price increases.

It is the first cigar price rise for a year and part of the increases will give higher cash margins to distributors including retailers.

Beer price increases in Scotland, the North-east, North-west and the East Midlands look like the start of the annual price round which usually reaches the south of England towards the autumn.

Scottish & Newcastle Brew-

eries has put through increases in Scotland which are adding between 1p and 4p to bar prices.

Whitbread is bringing in wholesale price rises which will by the end of the month put up prices in tenanted public houses in the North-east, Yorkshire and East Midlands. Mostly the increases range between 2p and 4p but in the North-east Stella Artois lager rises by 5p.

In the North-west, the regional brewer, Greenall Whitley, based in Warrington, is raising beer prices by the end of this month in its own managed public houses by 2p a pint.

Mr Stuart Holmes, the veteran anti-smoking campaigner, is taking action next week against Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, to try to force him to stop the BBC broadcasting the Embassy World Snooker Championships and other tobacco sponsored events.

Mr Stephen Byres, director of the Freedom Organisation for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco (Forest), is urging smokers to boycott the recently-launched Paramount Airways because of its ban on smoking.

Husband jailed for shooting

Terrence Morgan, who twice shot his wife's lover at close range with the world's most powerful handgun, was jailed for six years yesterday.

Bullets from the Magnum .44 passed through Mr Michael Collins' stomach and out the other side of his body, just missing his spine.

But Mr Collins, a helicopter builder, survived and made an almost complete recovery after extensive surgery, Exeter Crown Court was told.

Morgan, aged 36, a firearms dealer, of Priorswood Road, Taunton, admitted the attempted murder of Mr Collins, aged 34, of Goss Park, Street, Somerset.

He was told by Mr Justice Jupp: "There is only one happy issue to come out of the whole thing — Mr Collins is back with his wife and you and your wife are reconciled."

Mr Geoffrey Mercer, for the prosecution, said Morgan and Mr Collins were friends who shared a common interest in firearms. But Morgan's wife, Sylvia, aged 34, and Mr Collins became lovers.

He drove to Mr Collins' parents' home in Bridgwater Road, Taunton, and shot him before giving himself up.

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First early release prisoners will be freed next month

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The first offenders to be granted early release as part of the Government's emergency package to tackle prison overcrowding are expected to be freed in about four weeks.

That is when an order to be laid before Parliament next week is likely to come into effect. It will increase the amount of remission allowed for good behaviour from a third to a half of a prisoner's sentence, and apply to those serving terms of up to 12 months. Young offenders will be included in the move.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said yesterday that about 3,500 prisoners would be released early, but they would not be serious offenders.

"They are people whom the courts have decided are not dangerous criminals and who deserve relatively light punishment. They are going to be on the streets anyway", he said.

The speed with which Mr Hurd intends to act is shown by plans to open Rolleston camp, Wiltshire, in two or three weeks. It will hold 360 inmates under the control of about 60 prison service personnel.

Whether Rolleston will provide enough extra accommodation depends on future shifts in the prison population. Mr Hurd has said he will keep under review the need for more camps and "other additional accommodation".

Figures released yesterday show that a record number of prisoners are now being held in England and Wales. The number rose from 51,029 a week ago to 51,239, an increase of 210. The total increase of 50,504 prison inmates, against an official capacity of 41,994, and 735 prisoners held in police cells because there is no room for them in jail.

Mr Hurd yesterday answered criticism from Mr Leon Brittan, his predecessor, over the plans to release prisoners early.

Mr Brittan had said it was "wrong in principle and quite contrary to the rule of law" for convicted criminals to be released early "simply because there is no room".

But Mr Hurd said that there was no question of it being against the rule of law. He said: "We are quite entitled within the law to carry it out".

Recalling that Mr Brittan had himself adjusted parole for less serious offenders while in charge of the Home Office, Mr Hurd said: "I was part of his team then and I fully supported him in that."

"It is quite clear that if we had not taken these steps and there had been an explosion within the prisons, the Government would have been at fault."

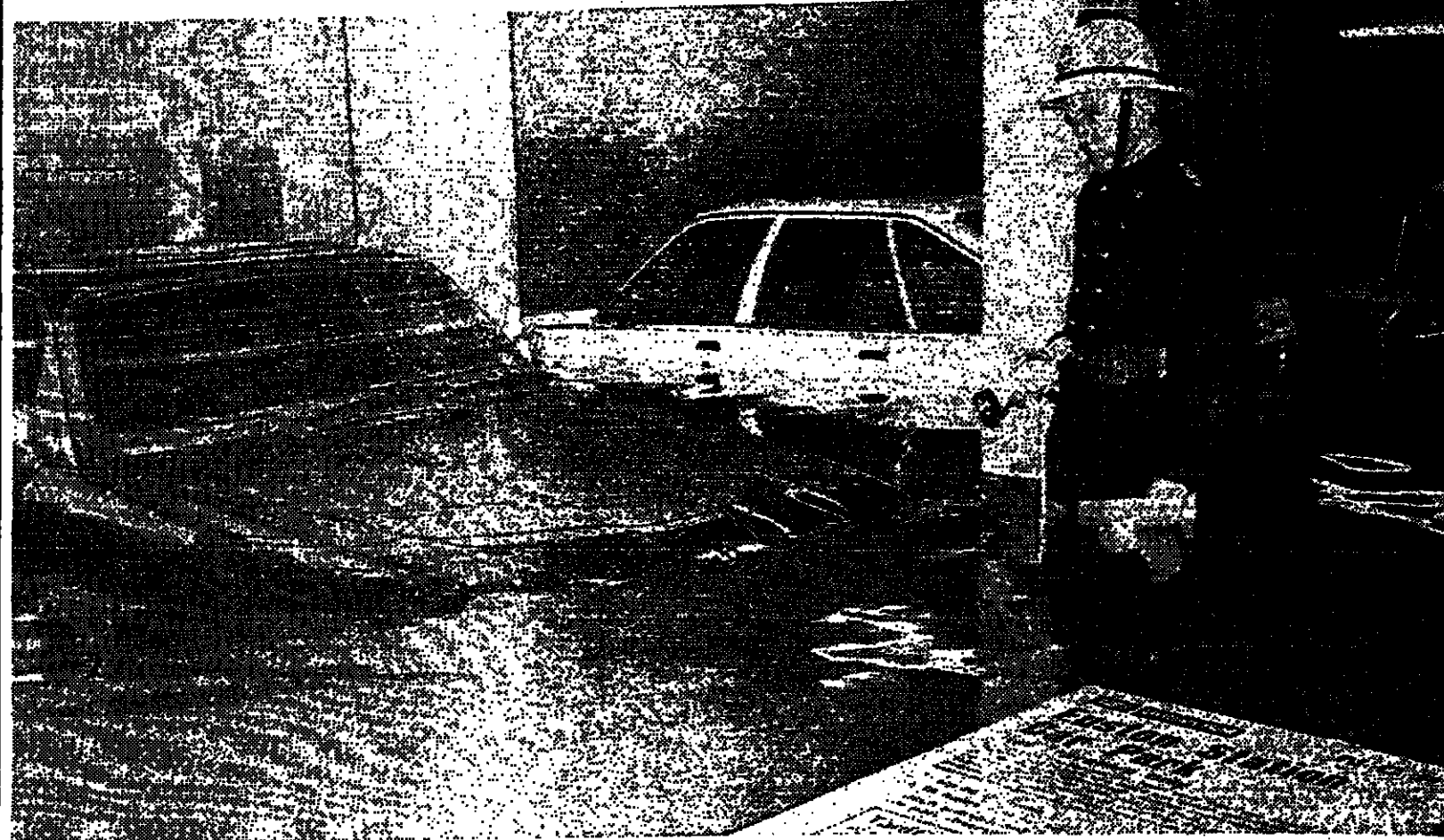
Mr Hurd eventually hopes to inject private enterprise experience more effectively into the prison building programme. At what level and quite how this will happen has yet to be decided.

Sir Brian Cubbon, Permanent Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, and other officials met private contractors before the general election. They have since formed themselves into a loose group and officials await further discussion.

One of the issues is how to fit private enterprise into the existing system. The Home Office initiates the idea of building a prison and gets the money for it from the Treasury, and the Property Services Agency looks after management of prison construction.

It has been claimed in the past that one of the main hold-ups was difficulty in obtaining planning permission, and Mr Hurd is known to believe that it takes far too long to build a new prison.

Car owners seek flood compensation



Station commander Ian Robson, of Paddington fire station, checking cars trapped after a main burst at Euston (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

By Robin Young

A campaign for compensation for about 150 cars flooded in the car park beneath Euston station, north London, when a water main burst on Thursday, is to be led by Mr John Heddle, the Conservative MP.

His own Jaguar was among the cars trapped.

The Thames Water Authority has offered to meet claims as soon as the damage can be fully assessed, although British Rail's management said that all vehicles were parked at the owners' risk, and that claims might be made on the owners' insurance companies.

Normal train services are expected to be restored by Monday, although Euston Underground station is likely still to be closed, Mr Ron Farrow-Smith, divisional operations manager for London Regional Transport, said.

Yesterday the Northern line was

shut between Camden Town and Moorgate and the Victoria line between Victoria and Highbury because of the flood.

Firemen from 40 stations worked through the night and most of yesterday pumping water from car park and Underground tunnels. One pump ran until it was red hot and had to be replaced.

An Underground train was trapped in mid-tunnel for nearly an hour while

firemen worked to stem the flood. A London Regional Transport spokesman said that they had been in continual contact with the driver of the train by radio and were monitoring the situation throughout, although fire brigade officers at the scene claimed that they had not been told there were passengers in the tunnel.

It is estimated that more than 15 million gallons of water escaped from the burst main.

Tensions in cells holding three men

By Andrew Morgan

John Cooper was released from Strangeways prison in Manchester three weeks ago after four years of a seven-year sentence for robbery. He had spent time at four prisons but found Strangeways the worst.

"There were men in there serving up to seven months for non-payment of fines. It was costing the Government about £300 a week to keep them and yet their fines were much lower", Mr Cooper, aged 31, from Oldham, Manchester, said.

"Then there were first offenders for crimes like criminal damage who should never be inside. Burglary should be the lowest custodial crime."

He said: "Releasing offenders will help a bit but the tension will still be there. Under-staffing means Strangeways has not had any television time or 'association' since 1975."

"I shared a cell with two other men, banged up for 23 hours a day. The inevitable riots broke out on my wing last April during the hot spell."

"Numbers were so high that I was being allowed one shower every 14 to 21 days. We strip-washed for the rest of the time and obviously the smell was dreadful."

Pat Schooley, aged 20, from

Kington upon Thames, south-west London, left a Rochester youth custody centre on June 30 after serving nearly 12 months for stealing cars.

He was locked up for 20 hours a day and he said several prisoners lost remission for wrapping their excrement in paper and throwing it through the window rather than use the cell bucket.

Mr Schooley also spent time in a Dover centre and believed that too many petty offenders — shoplifters and burglars — on a first offence — were serving a custodial sentence.

"Many have good references for community service but the courts turn them down. I think they should examine them more closely", he said.

Martin Wynne, aged 22, who lives in a hostel in Finchley, north London, was 12 months in Wormwood Scrubs. He took part in the recent riots.

"Low staffing meant we could watch television, play pool or table-tennis for only two hours a week", he said.

"People talk of too many people inside but they often forget the other factors: conditions outside — the boredom, the lack of hope. Releasing men into the community won't help that."

BA denies any danger in air miss

British Airways yesterday denied there was any risk of collision between one of its Boeing 747s and an RAF transport plane in a "near miss".

British Airways said the two aircraft had passed within 500 to 600 yards of each other, not 200 yards as some reports claimed.

The airline said its Boeing 747, flying from Heathrow to Los Angeles, was travelling at 500 knots and overtaking the RAF Hercules on Wednesday over Carlisle.

The Civil Aviation Authority confirmed that an investigation had been ordered into the incident but refused to discuss details.

The Ministry of Defence said: "We are aware of a report of a near miss".

The pilot of the British Airways aircraft, flight 283, filed the report. Regulations state that there should be at least 1,000ft above or below an aircraft and five miles on either side.

British Airways said the 747

was at 26,000ft and was climbing to 29,000ft when the pilot saw the Hercules. The incident was not regarded as a serious one.

The airline said: "The pilot did not have to take avoiding action. There was no risk of collision and in such circumstances it is optional for the pilot to file an air miss report. There was never any danger."

The CAA said there were 45 reported near misses involving public transport aircraft in 1975 compared with 16 last year.

Computer 'hackers' cleared

Two computer hackers who were found guilty of forgery and fined after breaking into the Duke of Edinburgh's secret computer files had their convictions set aside by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, allowing their appeal, said it was the first time that this kind of activity had been made the subject of charges under the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act, 1981.

At Southwark Crown Court in April last year, Mr Robert Schifreen, a computer journalist, and Mr Stephen Gold, an accountant, were convicted of contravening the Act by gaining unauthorized access to British Telecom's Prestel computer network.

Mr Schifreen, aged 23, of Edgewarebury Gardens, north London, said to have left messages on the Duke's files, was fined £750. Mr Gold, aged 31, of Watt Lane, Sheffield, was fined £600.

Lord Lane said yesterday that, if it was forgery at all, it was a "very unusual form". He said: "Their object was not so much to gain any profit for themselves as to demonstrate their skills as hackers."

Although their conduct amounted to dishonestly gaining access to the data bank by the means of a computer, it was not a criminal offence. "If it is thought desirable to make it so, that is a matter for the legislature."

Armed services and race Forces keep ethnic records

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Medical records kept by the Armed Forces include the ethnic origin of servicemen and women, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, disclosed yesterday.

The information was required because certain conditions can be "racially specific" but it was kept strictly confidential, he assured MPs.

Mr Younger sent an example of the servicemen's medical examination reports to the Commons defence select committee after accusations of racial discrimination in the services.

The Prince of Wales has criticized the lack of black guardsmen and said he would like to see more black soldiers taking part in ceremonies.

Mr Younger has strongly

denied any colour bar while admitting no figures were kept. In revised guidance to recruiting stations the Ministry of Defence urged officers to guard against "the more subtle and unconscious varieties of discrimination".

The all-party committee of MPs released an exchange of letters with the Ministry of Defence yesterday but has not yet produced a report on its investigation into ethnic monitoring and the Armed Forces.

Defending the use of information on ethnic origins in medical records, Mr Younger told the MPs: "I am satisfied that none of the services maintains records in order to monitor the ethnic composition of those in their ranks."

The Ministry of Defence

introduced a scheme on April 1 to check the racial make-up of new recruits. It said yesterday recruits had the choice on whether they filled in the box marked "race" on the application form.

Dr John Gilbert, a former Labour defence minister and a committee member, had denounced the form as a fraud because it failed to show whether black and Asians had equal access to elite regimental units or enjoyed equal promotion prospects.

The evidence also disclosed the religious make-up of Army and RAF ranks. Out of 160,701 Army servicemen, 222 belong to non-Christian denominations. Commons Defence Committee: Ethnic Monitoring and the Armed Forces — minutes of evidence (Stationery Office, £5.20).

Man on £2m cheque fraud charge

An Israeli arrested in London in connection with an alleged £2 million cheque fraud on a bank in North Carolina said yesterday he would fight extradition to America.

Shabtai Kalmanowitch, aged 39, the diplomatic representative in Israel for the South African black homeland of Bophutswana, is the head of an international group dealing in gold.

He was arrested on May 22

and is shortly to be the subject of extradition proceedings to America over alleged cheque frauds on the National Bank of North Carolina.

He said outside Bow Street Magistrates' Court in central London: "It has been claimed that my arrest could seriously harm the gold market in Sierra Leone, but this is not the case."

"My company, Liat, is exporting the same amount of gold as before."

Mr Kalmanowitch, of Palace Street, Victoria, central London, had earlier yesterday been remanded on £500,000 bail to reappear on July 21.

He was arrested with a colleague, Vladimir Davidson, who has dual British and Israeli nationality.

Mr Davidson, aged 44, who also faces extradition on the same charge, was remanded in custody until the same date.

10 years for coma attack

A youth aged 17 collapsed in the dock yesterday after he was sentenced to 10 years youth custody for a robbery that left a shop assistant in a coma with irreversible brain damage.

Mr Justice Simon Brown told Harvey Stevens: "You have been convicted of a most horrific crime of truly awesome wickedness, carried out with ruthless, brutal determination and callousness, it cannot be regarded as anything less than murder."

"You ended this woman's life as completely as if you had killed her. It may have been better if you had."

Stevens, of Eritswell Drive, Lakenheath, Suffolk, had denied attempting to murder Miss Pamela Banyard, aged 33, of Littleport, Cambridgeshire, but was found guilty by a jury at Norwich Crown Court.

He was also sentenced to six years youth custody for robbery to run concurrently, which he admitted.

His brother, Mark, aged 14, who admitted acting as a lookout while the robbery was carried out, was sentenced to three months' detention.

The court was told that Miss Banyard was alone in the shop at Lakenheath when Stevens made his savage assault.

Stevens robbed the shop of £147.

July 17 1987

PARLIAMENT

Home Office urged to increase police numbers

MPs on both sides of the Commons called on the Home Office to increase the number of police available for patrolling the inner cities in order to cut down crime. But Mr Douglas Hogg, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said that to reduce crime simply by increasing police numbers meant recruiting not hundreds, but thousands more officers.

Mr Winston Churchill (Davyhulme, C), opening the debate, said that the Government's strategy was designed to regenerate housing, businesses and jobs in the decaying and festering hearts of major cities, but that new life and hope would come to nothing if the people who lived there did not feel secure in their homes or on the streets.

The inner cities faced an alarming situation as instances of all types of crime surged, but there was a shortage of police manpower and resources to deal with crime.

Grants and other inducements to people to move to the inner cities and set up businesses were not enough so long as they felt threatened and frightened in their environment. Adequate policing was a prerequisite to urban regeneration.

"Unless the situation is addressed decisively it will get out of hand in the inner cities where the crime rates are surging and the detection rates declining."

Mr Edward Garrett (Walsend, Lab) said that he was impressed by the dedication of men on the police courses at which he lectured, and by their avoidance of cynicism despite the pressures on them.

Young people were not accepting their responsibilities as citizens, and parental attitudes were a major factor in the increase in petty crime. Parents did not have the courage to tackle their children when they did wrong, so a period of re-education was needed.

Mr Irvine Paskett (Sheffield, Hallam, C), in a maiden speech, said that the loosening of family

ties, the decline of the community spirit, the relaxation of discipline and the blurring of the difference between right and wrong were among things which had played a part in increased lawlessness. Efforts to rekindle values were often ridiculed, but a rebirth in pride in the community had started in the inner cities.

Mrs Rosie Barnes (Greenwich, SDP) stressed the need to combat the fear of crime. Officers on the beat were invaluable in alleviating this fear, in making the street and giving mothers confidence to allow their children to go to the park. Fear was paralysing the lives of some people in parts of the inner cities.

Every local authority should be obliged to set up a crime prevention unit. Labour authorities could pay for such units by diverting the money they spent on anti-police monitoring committees.

Mr Paul Boateng (Brent South, Lab) said that knives were now carried by many young people as a matter of course. That, and the prevalence of drugs and racial harassment, were the problems that had to be tackled in the interests of enforcement and maintenance of safety and security in the inner cities.

No one who cared about crime prevention could believe it healthy or useful for the police, local authorities and the communities they represented to be apart. Everyone wanted to see them working together effectively and co-ordinately.

Mr Christopher Butler (Warrington South, C), in a maiden speech, said that remission and parole were given too freely. He believed in parole "but it is crazy that the parole board or judges themselves should not have some power of insisting on some period of supervision in the period of remission or even after it."

"We are, sadly, allowing the size of our prison population to dictate our criminal justice and

penal policy. It is an example of the tail wagging the dog."

With dismay he had heard the Home Secretary announcing his intention to free another 3,000 or more prisoners by relaxing further the remission provisions. "If we go down this road we are diluting the deterrent of the criminal justice system."

Mr Hurd should think again, Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that inner city crime could not be separated from inner city unemployment, poverty, deprivation, housing problems and the reduction in public services caused by the rate support grant cuts endured by every authority with inner cities within its boundaries.

Areas of the country had been written off by the Government. Inner cities were becoming alienated from the rest of society, and the greatest alienation, or certainly the greatest potential alienation, was among the ethnic minorities.

He wanted more police in inner cities: more policemen on the beat, devoted to the success of these areas and to the interests of their people. Black British and Asian British felt that there was police discrimination against them and it was the duty of the police and community leaders to try to remove that feeling of alienation.

Amid Conservative cheers, he commented: "I am prepared to say to those authorities which want to drive a wedge between police and public that they are wrong. I hope that Conservative values will reciprocate that dangerous broad-mindedness by saying that there are cases when police behaviour is something about which we have to take legitimate exception and which has to be improved and corrected."

The police must be partly responsible to an elected authority and behave in a way which would convince the public that they were working with them.

Mr Anthony Coombs (Wyre Forest, C), in a maiden speech, said that despite the lurid stories of violent crime in the press, most people in the inner cities were peaceful and law-abiding and deserved even-handed policing irrespective of social or racial considerations.

A new and virulent form of anti-racism was based on the premise that all white people were inevitably racists and they had to be purged of this by compulsory racial awareness training.

Mr Christopher Smith (Islington South and Finsbury, Lab) said that he was pleased that justice had been done at long last in the case in which five innocent lads in his constituency had been the subject of an unprovoked and brutal attack by police, in August 1983, and that the Old Bailey judge dealing with the case had sent out a clear message that police officers who overstepped the mark in this way would be brought to account.

The methods and procedures of the police complaints authority must now be reviewed. The public could not have confidence in the independence of a system of the police policing themselves.

The Home Secretary had refused to re-open the inquiry. It was Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, who had offered immunity from prosecution to those who could help bring the guilty to justice. That must raise questions about the role of the Home Secretary as the police authority for London. Greater democratic accountability was necessary.

All these lessons must be learnt if they were to ensure that an incident such as this could never happen again.

Mr Hogg said that the Government had committed more resources, energy and imagination to ensuring that there was a properly resourced law and order programme, than had any previous administration.



Mr Butler: Home Secretary should think again on remission

To suppose that the problem of crime could be tackled solely by increasing the number of paid officers would mean talking in terms, not of hundreds of officers, but thousands and that was not a policy the Government could put forward.

They must increase force establishments in a steady, evolutionary, progressive way to meet identified needs. There was no positive correlation between the number of police officers and the detection of crime.

"On the question of knives, I agree that there is a major problem and I very much hope the Government will be able to come forward in the near future with positive proposals to deal both with the sale of certain offensive weapons and, I hope, with the carrying of them, although I can give no commitment."

On the court case in which five police officers had been jailed following an assault on schoolboys, he said that there could be no criticism of the officers who had carried out the investigation.

The police complaints authority was regarded as an efficient and independent investigatory

body. It would not be right to dilute the standard of proof currently required in police disciplinary cases. There were lessons to be learnt by all, including the Government, from the case.

Mr Clive Soley (Hammersmith, Lab) said that the current policy on law and order had failed disastrously. Ministers wanted to do something about it, but they had to placate voices in their party calling for tougher measures, so there was the absurdity of the Home Secretary introducing the Criminal Justice Bill to allow political pressure to be put on the Attorney General to relax lenient sentences for longer sentences and then letting prisoners out early by giving remission to several thousand prisoners.

Mr Terence Dicks (Hayes and Harlington, C) said that most people were sick and tired of listening to pleas for special consideration by ethnic minorities.

Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North, Lab) said he had been at Wapping many times during the year-long dispute. He had witnessed the police lined up in ranks as if preparing for a medieval battle.

Representatives of the print unions and the police had met and, on occasion, reached agreement about policing methods. But many officers were out of the control of their commanders and used indiscriminate violence against peaceful protesters.

Mr David Bevan (Birmingham, Yardley, C) said that a system of photo-identity cards should be introduced. It would protect the innocent and only the guilty need fear it.

Complete list of Government

On Monday *The Times* will publish a complete Government list, detailing the main responsibilities of each minister.



BEATRICE DALLE
As You've Never Seen Her.

TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY
As You Never Thought You'd See Him.

MADONNA
As You'll Soon Be Seeing Her.

LOVE, LUST AND THE LAW
As Far As You're Allowed To Go.

YOUR FORTNIGHTLY GUIDE TO MOVIES, MUSIC AND FASHION

Sri Lanka plan dra
Sheikh's message
Lightning
10 bombs rock Lima
US art show
Pakistan may hang terrorists

WORLD SUMMARY

Sri Lanka peace plan drawn up

Colombo — Hopes for a solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic problem have risen this week after a series of meetings involving President Jayewardene, the Indian High Commissioner and Cabinet ministers (Vijitha Yapa writes).

A new proposal calls for a single provincial council for the island's northern and eastern provinces which in effect recognizes a persistent Tamil demand. Since there has been opposition to the eastern province linking up with the north, mainly from Muslims, the proposal envisages a referendum in the eastern province within a year to confirm the arrangement. There have also been indications that India will help to deal with any Tamil group which tries to resist any accord, according to informed sources.

Sheikh's message

Beirut (Reuter) — A leading Shia Muslim cleric was quoted yesterday as saying the kidnapping of foreign academics was not the way to confront foreign-backed universities in Lebanon.

Local newspapers said the cleric, Sheikh Muhammad Hussein Fadlallah, told a group of Muslim university graduates that foreign professors were "not directly linked to espionage and conspiracies". Five academics from the American University of Beirut and Beirut University College are among 29 foreigners missing, believed kidnapped, in Lebanon. Four of the academics are Americans.

Sheikh Fadlallah is the spiritual mentor of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God).

Luanda pledge

Luanda (Reuter) — Angola and the United States have pledged to continue seeking a negotiated peace in southern Africa and the rapid implementation of a United Nations plan for the independence of Namibia.

A communiqué issued yesterday by the Angolan Government after two days of talks with Mr. Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, said both sides had reviewed the problems which had led to the suspension more than 15 months ago of formal contacts between the two nations.

Angola broke off talks with Washington in protest at an American decision to send military aid to Angolan rebels.

Lightning air scare

Madrid — Lightning put the entire air traffic control centre for the Madrid area out of action for three to eight minutes at a time when 34 planes were in the area, carrying a total of nearly 7,000 passengers, it was revealed here yesterday (Harry Debelius writes).

Lightning struck the lightning rod at the control centre at Paracuellos, on the edge of a bluff overlooking Madrid's Barajas Airport on July 7. The unusual intensity of the electric charge affected computer circuits. It took two days to repair the major part of the damage, and during that time, air traffic was controlled "manually" — without radar and automated tracking aids.

10 bombs rock Lima

Lima (Reuter) — Ten bombs exploded in Lima last night, including one near the presidential palace. Five people were injured and a third of the city was blacked out for 20 minutes.

Areas of 11 other Peruvian provinces were blacked out, but the National Electricity Commission said this was due to technical problems rather than bombings.

Police said they did not know if the bombings were carried out by the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas or by the Marxist Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement.

US art show halted

Peking (Reuter) — The United States has called off a planned exhibition of 51 portraits in Peking after Chinese officials demanded that paintings of General MacArthur and Golda Meir be left out. US officials said.

They accused China of trying to censor the exhibition of works from the US National Portrait Gallery. A spokesman for the China Exhibition Agency said he was still negotiating with American cultural officials and believed the September show might still go ahead.

Pakistan may hang terrorists

From Zahid Hussain Karachi

The Pakistan Government is considering enforcing a new anti-terrorist law which requires public hanging for those found guilty of terrorism. Mr. Muhammad Khan Junejo, the Prime Minister, has declared.

Referring to the recent bomb blasts in Karachi which left 73 dead and about 200 injured, Mr. Junejo said at a press conference on Thursday that the Government was taking the wave of bombings in Pakistan over the past six months very seriously.

The Prime Minister blamed Afghanistan for the blasts, but added that India was "training saboteurs, in league with hirelings" who may be behind the recent blasts in Peshawar, Lahore and Karachi. While President Zia singled out Afghan responsibility for terrorist acts in Pakistan in a statement on Wednesday, Mr. Junejo said that the possibility of India's involvement could not be ruled out.

He recalled that in talks with the Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, in Bangalore last November he had observed that India was organizing 17 training centres for guerrillas with a view to sending them to Pakistan's Sind province to destabilize the country.

Meanwhile, 20 women protesters and a former mayor of Karachi were among about 50 people arrested here on Thursday evening for anti-government demonstrations. Vehicles were set on fire in the protest, in response to a strike call by opposition parties, but police using tear gas broke up the demonstration.

Moroccan King cuts short visit

By Nicholas Beeston

King Hassan of Morocco yesterday cut short plans for a golfing weekend to attend to "pressing business" at home.

The King, who ended a four-day state visit to London yesterday, is flying home today. He had originally planned to move to the Gleneagles Hotel in Scotland.

"A change to the schedule of the private part of his visit was always a possibility, he has many royal duties to attend to at home and they clearly take precedence over his golf," one diplomat said. He ruled out the possibility that King Hassan had been offended by some disparaging reports in the British media.

Both Buckingham Palace and the King's aides described the visit as a complete success, in spite of controversy about the possible sale of British arms to Morocco.

Opposition MPs and peers accused the King of using his trip to London as a cover for buying weapons to fight the 12-year war against the Polisario Front guerrillas over the former Spanish colony of Western Sahara.

During his stay in Britain, King Hassan held talks with Mrs. Thatcher and senior Cabinet ministers. The two leaders agreed that an international conference on the Arab-Israeli problem was the only way forward. King Hassan is believed to have discussed the matter also with King Hussein of Jordan, who is on a private visit to London.

Police tighten cordon as Paris breaks off ties with Tehran



Police gathering in the Place d'Iéna near the Iranian Embassy in Paris, as security was increased after France broke off relations with Tehran.

The Iran-Contra hearings

Poindexter position looks bleak

From Michael Binyon Washington

Rear-Admiral John Poindexter, vigorously disputing assertions that he was still lying in order to protect President Reagan, insisted yesterday that it was purely his personal judgement that led him to conclude that he should not tell the President about the diversion of Iran arms profits.

The former National Security Adviser said that he believed, after five years of working with President Reagan, that this would be the best thing to do. But he denied that Mr. Reagan had ever ordered him to keep information from him or indicated that he did not want to take responsibility. "This President was willing to make tough decisions," he said.

He said his action in not telling Mr. Reagan was "A

personal judgement. The situation was very clear in my mind. I felt confident that he would want to do this." Asked if, in light of the White House statement on Thursday that anyone withholding information from Mr. Reagan was doing him a "diservice", he would still do the same, he replied unequivocally: "Yes." He said he still believed Mr. Reagan would have approved his actions if asked, but admitted this flatly contradicted what the White House was now saying.

"I would have expected him to say that. That is the whole idea of denial," he said. On his third day of testimony, marked by frequent clashes between his lawyer and the congressional committee's counsel, he also admitted that he withheld information from earlier congressional inquiries be-

cause "I simply didn't want side interference" in the secret programme to help the Nicaraguan Contras.

But he insisted that he had no intention of arranging a cover-up in November when he destroyed a key document authorizing the transfer of arms to Iran or helped draft false chronologies for the White House.

Admiral Poindexter said he had withheld information from Congress because he did not want any more "restrictive legislation" to stop US aid to the Contras.

He was repeatedly pressed on whether he would have wanted Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North to lie to Congress, as the colonel testified he did, rather than reveal the aid to the Contras. He agreed that he expected Colonel North to be evasive, but would not say what he ex-

pected him to do if asked directly about the Contras.

The questioning yesterday was sharp, and Admiral Poindexter's position looked increasingly bleak. The session began with a bitter complaint by Mr. Richard Beckler, his lawyer, that the hearing was unfair because some of the committee members and their counsel have publicly questioned the truthfulness of Admiral Poindexter's testimony.

Mr. Beckler was overruled in his request to have the hearing cancelled. But Admiral Poindexter gave an assurance that although he protected Mr. Reagan in 1986, there was no longer a need to do so, and he was speaking the truth.

Senator Daniel Inouye, the Democratic chairman of the Senate committee, sternly rebuked both Mr. Beckler and Admiral Poindexter, whose

testimony he called "incredible, mind-boggling, chilling".

Admiral Poindexter also complained that his remarks about destroying the President's 1985 "finding" on shipping arms to Iran had been misinterpreted. He said neither he nor Mr. Reagan had ever considered the initial document to be approval of a straight arms-for-hostages swap. But because the finding was incomplete, it read like that. Therefore, Admiral Poindexter said, he destroyed it.

The admiral admitted he was surprised that Colonel North had told both the late William Casey, the CIA director, and Mr. Robert McFarlane, the former National Security Adviser, about the diversion, as he had insisted that Colonel North tell no one.

Admiral dismisses 'arms for hostages' theory

A partial text of Rear-Admiral Poindexter's testimony yesterday to the congressional committee in Washington.

Mr. John Nields (committee counsel): You were aware in November of 1985 of the shipment of Hawk missiles by Israel to Iran before the shipment occurred? ...

Poindexter: The President did not view that, at the time, as arms for hostages. I did not either; I do not today. The hostage aspect was one small part of the plan, obviously an important part. The finding that he (the President) signed (on December 5) only addressed the retroactive aspect of the CIA's assistance on that one shipment. In no way can that be considered an arms for hostage arrangement. Because the finding only addressed that part, it can be interpreted that way, taken out of context. And that's exactly how my testimony to date has been taken by the press, out of context.

On "Nightline" (a US television programme) last night (Thursday), the moderator said that I had testified that it was simply an arms for hostage

arrangement ... That's not what I testified, and that's not what happened. When I saw that finding, on the 21 November of 1986 ... I recognized then, and I think my judgement was accurate, as has been borne out in the past few days, that that would be interpreted as an arms for hostage arrangement.

I didn't go through a long, orderly thought process as to what to do with that. And at that point I was damned annoyed. I was still annoyed that I'd been pressured into getting that signed before it was fully staffed. And so, without thinking about it, I tore the finding up.

The things you just told us, you had forgotten by the time November, 1986 rolled around?

That is correct. You'd forgotten that you knew about the shipment of the Hawks before they were shipped?

That is correct. You'd forgotten that you knew that a CIA proprietary had been used to ship them?

Every day in the White House, I received hundreds of documents, hundreds of messages ... We had

been involved in many, many issues over the year I simply did not remember ... I've explained to you why I tore up that finding.

It had nothing to do with trying to cover up some Hawk shipment, or something like that ... I simply saw it (the finding) as contributing to the story that the President's initiative was an arms for hostage arrangement, which it was not, which he did not feel it was, and in fact, it was not.

Who decided how that money (from the Iran arms sales) would be used?

My guidance to Colonel North was that those funds should be used for support of Contras in Central America so they could keep the pressure on the Sandinistas.

Was it your understanding that any part of that money would go to the personal benefit of General Secord?

That issue wasn't addressed one way or the other. I had great trust and confidence in Colonel North and General Secord and I think they're both patriots. I still do ...

I did not authorize him (Colonel North) to make false statements. I did think that he would withhold information and be evasive, frankly, in

answering questions. My objective all along was to withhold from the Congress exactly what the NSC staff was doing in carrying out the President's policy ... The Boland Amendment did not apply to the NSC staff; the US Government was complying with the letter and spirit of Boland, and I thought that was sufficient ...

What led you to believe that he (the President) would want deniability, as opposed to responsibility for an embarrassing political decision?

That was a personal judgement on my part.

Did you believe it was what he would want?

I felt confident that he would want to do this. He was very secure in his belief that it was the only way that we could bring about a democratic change to the Government in Nicaragua. That it was the only way that we could keep from ... having to use US soldiers on the ground in Central America ... He was willing by my assessment to take unilateral action; in other words, the President, exercising his Constitutional authority without necessarily getting the agreement from Congress.

New phase in Nicaraguan civil war
Contras hit key Army base

From David Gollob, Managua

The Contra rebels have destroyed a key Sandinista Army command post at San José de Bocay, in mountainous north-central Nicaragua, 30 miles from the Honduran border, according to a rebel communiqué issued in Honduras.

The Nicaraguan authorities have confirmed that the village of San José de Bocay was attacked shortly before dawn on Thursday, but deny any damage was done to military installations.

The Sandinista Army base in the village, which has a population of 3,000, is the command centre for two elite counter-insurgency battalions numbering about 1,000 men, and is the linch-pin of Sandinista defences against Contra infiltrations from neighbouring Honduras.

According to the rebel communiqué, a force of 120

Contras attacked the base, using explosives to destroy it and an adjacent military airstrip. The communiqué gave no figures on casualties in the fighting.

The Nicaraguan Army said 19 local militia men, six civilians and 12 Contras were killed in the attack. Although their accounts conflict, both



Sandinista hopes on US policy fade

Managua — The Iran-Contra hearings are being closely monitored by the Sandinista Government in Nicaragua, with growing pessimism that a change in US policy towards Nicaragua will result (Our Correspondent writes).

Hopes that the scandal would so discredit the Reagan Administration that further aid to the Contra rebels would be refused by an angry Congress have sunk in the aftermath of the performance of Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North.

"It would seem public opinion in the US has shifted as a result of Colonel North's testimony," a source close to the ruling Sandinista Front said. "Now it looks like further aid to the Contras will be approved."

ments, including the President's office at the Foreign Ministry, videotape satellite broadcasts of the hearings. The tapes are closely analysed by foreign policy experts, and President Ortega receives daily transcripts.

A request by a US television network to film the President watching the hearings was refused, with the explanation that Señor Ortega does not personally monitor the proceedings. According to a Government source, Señor Ortega is convinced the hearings are just a "show", and is not prepared to lend himself to a "propaganda exercise" that would raise the profile of the congressional investigation.

"The scandal is now in its eighth month," the source

said, "and the war continues just the same. Although we are the ones who are suffering, this is Washington's mess, and we have no part to play."

The Government-controlled media give the hearings maximum play, and trumpet every new revelation as confirmation of the illegality of US support for the Contra war.

The Sandinista leadership, aware that the Reagan Administration has only another 17 months to run, appears torn between its hopes for a new Government that might abandon the Contras and its fears that President Reagan will take precipitate action to fulfill his pledge to "roll back" communist insurgency in Central America before his term expires.

THE TIMES
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Fresh Tunis violence is linked to trials of Islamic hardliners

From Susan MacDonald, Tunis

Eight policemen and a demonstrator were injured in violent demonstrations by Islamic fundamentalists which broke out simultaneously in two places in central Tunis on Thursday night.

The official Tunisian news agency, TAP, yesterday said the demonstrations were organized by the Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI).

In the violence, at least 200 young people carrying MTI banners began throwing petrol bombs and stones. Windows were broken and a police car burnt out before riot police were able to restore order.

Several demonstrators, including the protest leaders, were arrested.

The demonstrations were the most violent since those in April organized to protest against the arrest of several hundred Muslim fundamentalists, including Mr Rachid Ghannouchi, the MTI leader.

The problem of Islamic fundamentalism in Tunisia has been growing for some years and has now reached considerable proportions.

After the arrests in Paris last March of six Tunisians, said to be members of an alleged Iranian-inspired terrorist organization, the Tunisian Government broke off diplomatic relations with Iran. At the same time it announced that an Iranian-backed Islamic fundamentalist plot to overthrow the Government had been uncovered.

According to the Prime Minister, Mr Rachid Sfar, 1,500 people were arrested in March, of whom 300 are still in prison facing charges ranging from inciting public disturbances to plotting to overthrow the state.

Several small trials are being held to deal with minor offences — for which prison terms of two to three years are being imposed — but those believed to form the core of the movement will come before the State Security Court, probably within months, on charges which could carry the death sentence.

This severe crackdown, said to be on President Bourguiba's orders, has been accompanied by accusations of police brutality, torture and intimidation of the families of those being held.

In spite of similar crackdowns on legal opposition parties and the independent Tunisian League for the Defence of Human Rights, they have managed to protest against the length and conditions of the detention of the fundamentalists while at the same time distancing themselves from their extremist religious views.

While the threat to Tunisia from Islamic extremists inspired by the idea of religious revolution in the Iranian style is not taken lightly, there is also fear that widespread repression may aggravate the situation and lead to a general deterioration in political and social freedom.

The Islamic fundamentalist movement began to emerge in Tunisia in the early 1970s, particularly at the university, and was at first said to be tolerated by the Government as a buffer to extreme left-wing organizations.

Its strength grew steadily and its views became more radical after the 1979 Iranian Shia Muslim revolution, although the roots of Sunni

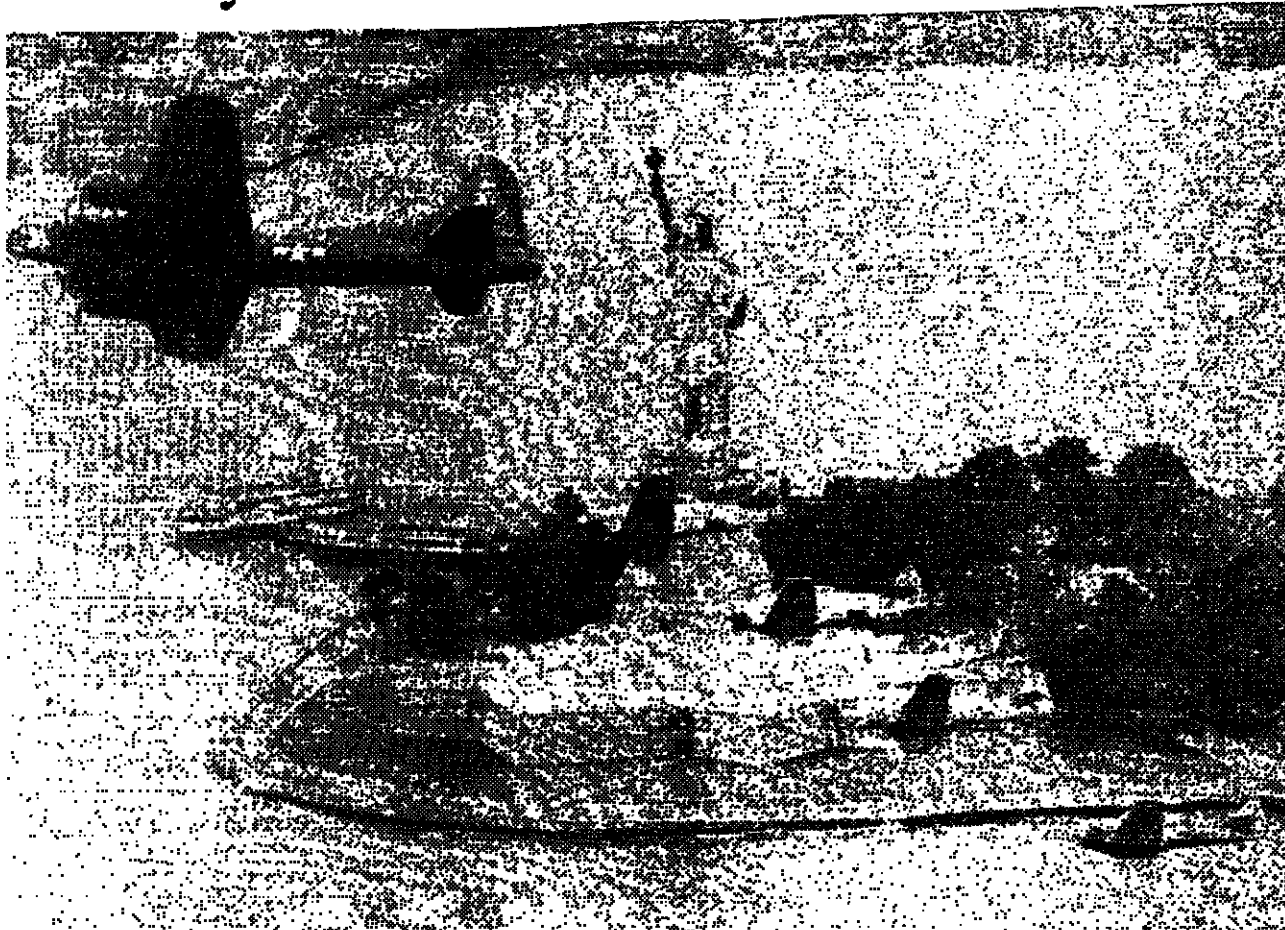
Muslim fervour in Tunisia are considered to be founded in growing dissatisfaction and disillusionment in intellectual circles and among the young, in spite of the benefits of President Bourguiba's modernizing social equality reforms. More than half the population is under 25 years of age. Many school and university leavers are unemployed, while those coming in from the countryside to find work in the towns lose touch with their traditional roots. In addition, political freedom of expression has been progressively curtailed since a brief flowering in 1981.

Yearly clashes between Tunis University fundamentalist students and those belonging to the extreme left have become increasingly violent, culminating in the serious disorder earlier this year which led to many arrests and a reinforced police presence on the university campus.

The MTI has publicly denied that it is an Iranian-backed organization. Opposition parties maintain that the best way to control such a movement would be to allow it a limited amount of political licence so that its arguments can be refuted in open debate.

The announced trial of Mr Ghannouchi and other MTI leaders could prove a turning point. The Government has asked the legal opposition to support it unreservedly in its fight against the fundamentalists, and the opposition parties must decide on the stand they will take once the verdicts are announced. The threat of death sentences is a serious one — there were 13 executions in Tunisia during 1986.

Liberty's welcome for the returning warrior



A Second World War B 17 "Flying Fortress", shadowed by four small T 5 trainer aircraft, arriving over New York harbour after its flight from England. The B 17 was one of the American giants of the war. This survivor, one of the last of more than 12,000 built, is headed for Houston, Texas, where it will become part of the collection of the Lone Star Flight Museum.

Swedes file drugs charge

Date fixed for British captain's trial

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Simon Hayward, a captain in The Life Guards, has finally been charged with smuggling cannabis into Sweden and will appear in court on Thursday.

Captain Hayward has denied smuggling 110lbs of cannabis worth an estimated £500,000, and was still in jail at Uppsala 40 miles north of Stockholm yesterday, where he has been held for most of the time since his arrest on March 13.

The public prosecutor, Mr Ulf Forsberg, formally charged Captain Hayward yesterday as Swedish police again pressed Interpol to step up the hunt for the captain's brother, Christopher. He is also suspected of involvement in smuggling cannabis to Sweden from the Spanish island of Ibiza, where he lived in the town of San Juan before his disappearance shortly after his brother's arrest.

Mr Forsberg said the last reliable sighting of Christopher Hayward was in the

Caribbean on board his 50ft catamaran True Love with his French girlfriend Jamile.

Captain Hayward's girlfriend, Miss Sandra Agar of London, checked out of the Uppsala Hotel in which she had been staying while visiting him. Staff there said they had no idea where she was, but Mr Forsberg told *The Times* that she was not expected to attend Captain Hayward's trial.

Captain Hayward himself was not present when the charge was made yesterday, and stayed in his cell. He was given a one-hour break for exercise and sunbathing on the roof and spent some time in the jail's gymnasium, where he has been keeping himself fit, using a training bicycle.

His trial will start before a judge and a five-man committee of politically-appointed jurymen.

Mr Christopher Hayward is a former member of the Indian Bagwan religious sect, as are seven other people who

have already been sentenced in the Hayward case.

The 170-page bundle of documents that the prosecutor handed in to Judge Ulf Hellebaker at Uppsala Court formally charging Captain Hayward contained several sworn statements.

In one of these, Captain Hayward admitted that part of his original statement to Swedish police was "not completely true".

This concerned the reason he claims to have visited Sweden in March. When he was first arrested by police while he was driving a 1982 British-registered green Jaguar sports car owned by Christopher Hayward, in the chassis of which police later found the cannabis, he said he had come to Sweden for a ski-ing holiday.

In the new statement handed in to the court yesterday, he said: "That is not completely true. I came to Sweden because my brother

had asked me if I could drive his car back to England. Later he said to me that he had found a buyer in Sweden.

"I was asked if I could do him a favour and drive the car to Sweden instead of England. That is the reason I came to Sweden."

Mr Forsberg said he still hoped to persuade Scotland Yard to change its mind and allow two officers in its National Drugs Intelligence Unit to give evidence for the prosecution at the trial, which is expected to last four days.

He accused the British police of bowing to political pressure in turning down his request that the officers should give evidence.

Mr Forsberg yesterday angrily refuted claims that the captain's mental and physical health had deteriorated during his long remand. He said that a doctor had found him to be in excellent physical and psychological shape.

Dark Age justice, page 8

Mutiny against Gandhi spreads

From Gavin Bell, Delhi

Just when Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, appeared to have restored order in his Congress (I) party flagship by banishing three mutineers, another has threatened to capsize it by jumping overboard.

Mr V.P. Singh, a former Defence Minister, resigned on Thursday night shortly after Mr Gandhi had expelled the three prominent dissidents for "anti-party activities".

In a telegram to the Prime Minister, Mr Singh condemned the dismissals, saying: "The message is loud and clear, that any Congressman can be politically hanged without a hearing, or any specific reason, by a nominated and ultimately non-elected party set-up. If throwing me out of the party will help the party, I

Delhi — Gunmen apparently tried to kill Mr Arif Mohammad Khan, a party dissident, last night (Gavin Bell writes). A mob was hearing him when about five shots were fired. Two attackers were beaten by his supporters.

am ready to offer this supreme political sacrifice by submitting my resignation."

Assuming that Mr Singh's resignation is accepted, his defection is a serious prestige blow to Congress, presently assailed by a humiliating series of corruption scandals and state electoral defeat. He had been granted a stay of execution as other heads rolled this week, apparently because of expressions of loyalty to Mr Gandhi.

But Mr Singh has been campaigning vigorously against corruption and what he regards as undemocratic political practices, and has a considerable following. A demanding ally, he may prove to be a dangerous foe.

Meanwhile, Mr Arun Nehru, Mr Arif Mohammad Khan, and Mr V.C. Shukla, the three condemned dissidents, have launched a counter-attack. Mr Shukla, a Minister of State under the late Mrs Indira Gandhi, said they would continue to campaign against corruption and communalism.

Waldheim invitation angers Israel

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The first visit to Israel by an Egyptian foreign minister for six years has got off on the wrong foot before it begins.

On Monday Mr Esmat Abdel-Meguid arrives for a three-day visit which was meant to concentrate on improving relations between

the two countries and on the peace process. Instead, it is in danger of being overshadowed by his country's invitation to President Waldheim of Austria to make a state visit.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, has already angrily said that if he were an Egyptian leader he would not have invited the

man Jewish leaders allege is a Nazi war criminal.

The matter is to be raised during the Egyptian minister's meeting with Mr Shamir and Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, who is most anxious to talk about convening the international peace conference which he supports, but which Mr Shamir opposes.

SPY CATCHER
The Candid Autobiography of a Senior Intelligence Officer
PETER WRIGHT
Former Assistant Director of MI5

BANNED

As The Sunday Times fights to continue its revelations from Spycatcher, we report on the astonishing battle over the book the Government would rather you didn't read.

DUEL IN THE CROWN?

IS THE DUCHESS STEALING THE LIMELIGHT FROM THE PRINCESS?

THE SUNDAY TIMES
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مكتبة الأصيل

Lisbon voters urged to do their 'patriotic duty'

Cavaco threatens to quit unless he gets an outright majority

With final appeals to still undecided voters, Professor Anibal Cavaco Silva, Portugal's Social Democratic leader, ended his campaigning yesterday hoping for an outright majority in tomorrow's general election.

In spite of leaked Government-inspired opinion polls showing the ruling Social Democrats within grasp of their goal, the tone of the final hours of the campaign suggests that the leaders of the right-of-centre Social Democratic Party are less than certain of getting an absolute majority. Indeed, in a last attempt to pressure voters Professor Cavaco has threatened to quit rather than lead another minority government as he did until April.

To obtain an outright majority — 126 seats in the 230-seat National Assembly — when no single party has achieved this in the five previous general elections since the 1974 revolution, would be to break the present

From Richard Wigg, Lisbon

mould of Portuguese politics. Professor Cavaco, whose party had only 88 seats in the old Parliament, has admitted that the present system of

proportional representation, throwing up five sizeable parties in the outgoing Assembly, is making it difficult for a single party to achieve an outright majority.

At mass rallies in Lisbon and the nearby industrial city of Setubal, the acting Prime Minister has even suggested that it is a "patriotic duty" to ensure that the country will enjoy four years of stable government under his leadership.

Professor Cavaco has based his nation-wide appeal on the

fact he was only allowed to serve for 16 months as head of a minority government before it fell last spring even though, helped by a favourable world economic climate, it was doing well.

He insists that the alternative to his single party government would be a crisis-plagued left-wing coalition, made up of Socialists and of the left-of-centre Democratic Renewal Party of former President Eanes, depending on Communist goodwill — the same forces that unseated him.

He is offering stability and is pleading for a chance to finish a task so promisingly begun. He is hoping that not only the undecided but also those who intend to abstain will heed his plea. In the last election, 25 per cent of voters did not bother to turn out.

Obligated to hold the present elections at the height of the summer holiday season, the Social Democrats are worried that they may suffer more



Fishing for votes: Dr Vitor Constancio, the Socialist Party leader, speaking to a stallholder at a Lisbon market yesterday.

than left-wing parties since many of their middle-class supporters are already on holiday and would have to return home in order to vote.

However, Professor Cavaco has not excluded the possibility of governing with the votes of the right-wing Christian Democrats, who had 22 seats in the old Parliament, but whose internal divisions threaten a serious decline in voter support tomorrow.

Some of the sharpest attacks on Professor Cavaco have come from Senhor Adriano Moreira, the Christian Democrat leader and a former Minister of Overseas Affairs during the Salazar regime, accusing the Social Democrat leader of "poaching" right-wing votes.

For the Christian Democrats Professor Cavaco's economic programme is not radical enough, and they com-

plain that the Social Democrats are too entrenched in state sector top jobs to be serious about privatization. They want to revive the 1980 coalition government with the Social Democrats, the only time when the right enjoyed a clear majority since 1974.

Dr Vitor Constancio, the Socialist Party leader, on his part is offering himself as the only alternative for centre-left and left-wing voters. But just

as Professor Cavaco has gone "poaching" on the right, Dr Constancio's target is the sizeable left-wing block of votes which gave former President Eanes's Democratic Renewal Party 45 seats in the old Assembly.

The Portuguese Communist Party, which won 38 seats last time, offers itself to the electors under a new guise, the United Democratic Coalition, which includes the Greens.

Party leaders steal the limelight at expense of issues and policies



Professor Cavaco Silva: Has moved to the right.

From Our Own Correspondent Lisbon

No Portuguese general election has ever been so dominated by personalities at the expense of issues or party programmes as the one taking place tomorrow.

Professor Anibal Cavaco Silva, leader of the Social Democrat Party, who has established himself at the centre of the campaign, has sought to exploit to the maximum the changed mood away from the ideologies of a decade ago.

Some of the older leaders of the party, which he has taken further to the right, may be worried about the personality cult. But the man who took charge of the Social Democrats in 1985 shows no hesitation.

Little in the severe and lean outward appearance of the York University-trained economics professor suggests the leadership qualities he has developed since taking the party's helm. It was he who engineered the downfall of the Socialist-Social Democrat coalition in 1985.

Though he has concentrated in the campaign on the issue of stability of government, Professor Cavaco can also show in office that the country's inflation rate has come down, to around 16 per cent, and that foreign investment, with Britain leading, has responded well to Portugal's entry to the European Community.

He has gambled a lot within his own party on winning an outright majority tomorrow night, but unless he wants it,

it is unlikely that Professor Cavaco will cease dominating the political scene if his party does not achieve this. If he wins outright some of his opponents fear he will overshadow President Soares.

Dr Vitor Constancio, a 43-year-old economist, who spent some time at Bristol University, only took over from Dr Soares as Socialist leader one year ago, and promptly rid the party programme of its Marxist vestiges.

His position in the party remains disputed, however, and a failure by the Socialists to get back votes lost in the 1985 general election, when the party's representation in Parliament was almost halved, would put Dr Constancio's position in doubt.

General Antonio Eanes, Portugal's

President for 10 years after the revolution, is also staking much on tomorrow's result. Holding to the 1985 results is the goal of his Democratic Renewal Party, still not much more than a personal vehicle for the 52-year-old Army officer who fought in Portugal's colonial wars. If his party, which got 18 per cent of the vote last time, gets only 10 per cent this time, he may feel obliged to quit.

Dr Alvaro Cunhal, the veteran 72-year-old Communist Party leader, is the only figure with no direct personal stake in tomorrow's outcome. But a search is already on for a successor to the man who first took charge of the then underground party in the 1960s and suffered long prison sentences under the Salazar regime.



General Antonio Eanes: Staking a lot on result.

Man held for arson attack on news office

Hong Kong (Reuters) — A Chinese immigrant was charged yesterday with attempting to set fire to the New China News Agency, Peking's de facto embassy in Hong Kong.

Court officials said Yeh Muh, aged 36, was arrested on Wednesday night. The arson attempt followed a series of bomb attacks on the agency which injured 15 people in the past five weeks.

Paid through the nose

Milan (Reuters) — A tourist who booked a double room in an Italian hotel was asked to pay an air conditioning supplement for his wife "because two noses breathe more air than one", according to Movimento Consumatori, a consumer organization.

It cited the case among ruses by hotels and restaurants to fiddle tourists, like "tourist spaghetti" — the normal product but costing much more.

Royal theft

Porto Ercole, Italy (Reuters) — A gold watch and jewellery belonging to the former Queen Juliana of The Netherlands have been stolen from the villa where she is staying with her husband, Prince Bernhard.

Tanker toll

Herborn (Reuters) — The death toll in last week's petrol tanker accident in this West German town has risen to five, after a man seriously wounded in the explosion died of his injuries.

Jamming over

Libya has stopped jamming the BBC's Arabic-language broadcasts from London, which it began in April during the Chad war.

Lardinois dies

The Hague (AP) — The Dutch statesman, M. Pierre Lardinois, the EEC's Commissioner for Agriculture from 1973-77, has died, aged 62.

US warns Israelis on discrimination

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The State Department yesterday called in the Israeli chargé d'affaires and formally protested over 75 incidents so far this summer of discriminatory and arbitrary treatment of Arab and black Americans trying to visit Israel.

Department officials told Mr Oded Eran, the chargé pending the arrival of the new ambassador, that Israel had not acted on earlier US complaints. The spokesman said that if the alleged harassment did not end within 30 days, the US would issue an official travel warning to US Arabs and blacks telling them of the difficulties they would face.

Such a step would be an unprecedented public rebuke to Israel, and is a clear attempt by Washington to shame its close ally into treating all US passport holders equally.

The summoning of Mr Eran comes after a series of complaints by US citizens of Palestinian and Arab origin who said that they were detained by Israeli immigration officers, badly treated and forcibly put back on planes to the United States.

The American-Arab Anti-discrimination Committee, based in Washington, has cited about 30 such incidents this year. It said one woman and her four children were detained for 12 hours, denied the right to telephone, the American consulate or speak to waiting relatives outside the terminal and accompanied back to Paris by an Israeli official who insisted that they board a connecting flight to New York.

She said they were given only stale rice and bread to eat and nothing to drink, and found on her return to the US that someone has poured shampoo, peroxide and lotions from one case into another containing dresses and clothing.

American officials in Israel confirmed that they had complained about an "ingrained pattern" of mistreatment which had worsened over the past two years. "We've made clear to the Israelis that we are against anything that in our

view discriminates on the basis of race, religion or national origin," one was quoted as saying.

US officials have also complained about the alleged harassment of black Americans, several of whom have been turned away. In two cases black pilgrims were ordered to post bonds of at least \$50,000 (£30,000) for the group because Israeli officials feared they were planning to join the black Hebrews sect.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry has rejected the complaints, saying that they were part of a clear campaign to portray Israel in a negative light. Officials said immigration officers looked at each case on its merits, and restrictions were not aimed specifically at Arabs.

Peacock agrees to be Liberal deputy

From Stephen Taylor Sydney

Mr Andrew Peacock, once the golden boy of Australian politics, saw what was probably his last chance of becoming Prime Minister disappear yesterday when his challenge to Mr John Howard for the leadership of the opposition Liberal Party was defeated by a convincing margin.

But there was cause for celebration by Liberals as, in a move to heal the divisions caused by their long-standing rivalry, Mr Peacock pledged loyalty to Mr Howard, and agreed to serve as his deputy.

At a joint news conference later, Mr Peacock ruled out another challenge in the next parliamentary term. Mr Peacock and Mr Howard then discussed the composition of the shadow cabinet.

The 41-28 parliamentary party vote in Mr Howard's favour was wider than predicted, and a solid endorsement of the leadership he gave in difficult circumstances for last week's election.

Mr Peacock promptly and unexpectedly signalled his preparedness to serve under Mr Howard, and comfortably beat Senator Fred Chaney for the post of deputy leader.

This reconciliation was a vital first step to purging the Liberals of the chronic disunity which cost them the election. And, in the longer term, Howard-Peacock could be the their dream ticket in 1990, particularly if by then they have shown that they can between them restructure an antiquated party organization.

Crisis in French prisons

Paris weighs early releases

From Diana Geddes, Paris

In a move designed to calm the spreading violence in France's severely overcrowded jails, M. Albin Chalandon, the Justice Minister, announced yesterday that he was ready to consider increasing the conditional release of prisoners if the unrest ceases.

Speaking at the Loos prison, near Lille, where there was trouble last Tuesday, M. Chalandon also announced that he had asked the courts to hand down alternatives to prison, such as community work, "wherever possible" in an attempt to keep down the prison population, which has increased by 12 per cent since the Government came to power 15 months ago.

There are now more than 50,000 inmates in jails designed to hold 32,500. In many jails, there are up to five prisoners in cells meant for

one. M. Chalandon recently announced plans to build places for 20,000 more, but the first of these will not be ready until 1989.

It was the overcrowding and poor conditions which started the unrest which began last Sunday and has so far affected half a dozen jails. Tensions have been further exacerbated by the recent heat wave and the absence of the usual presidential amnesty on July 14, Bastille Day.

The worst troubles have been in the Baumettes, in Marseilles, France's second biggest prison, where 2,400 men are crammed into accommodation designed for 1,000. On Thursday, some 100 inmates went on the rampage, setting fire to one of the two main prison blocks, destroying half its cells, breaking down doors with a bulldozer, ransacking the prison in-

firmary, and staging a three-hour roof-top protest.

Riot police using tear-gas grenades restored order after more than six hours. But there were noisy protests all night from prisoners back in their cells demanding an improvement in living conditions, and the police had to be called in again yesterday when some 60 inmates again attempted to climb on to the roof.

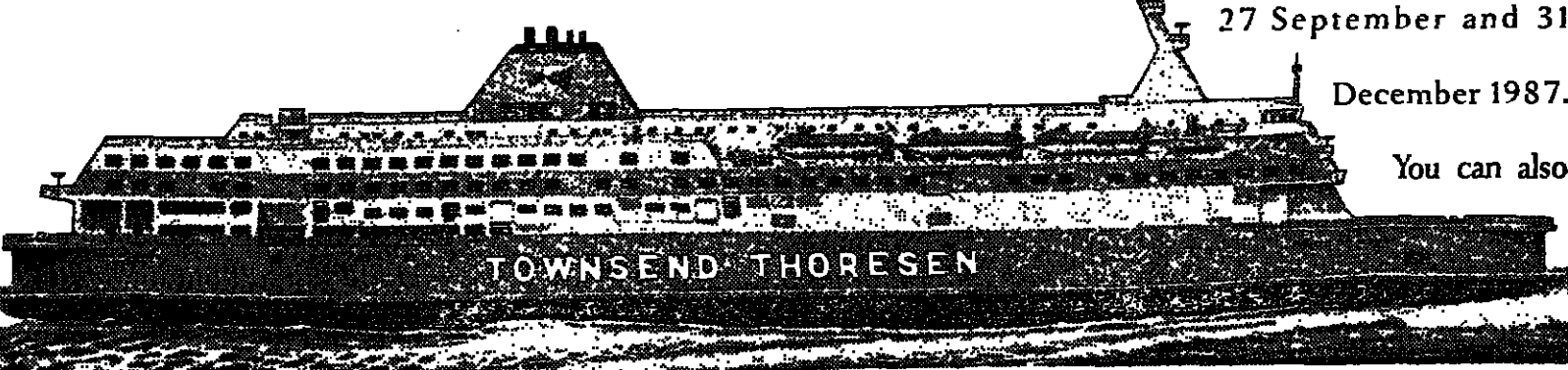
There were angry demonstrations by relatives outside the prison yesterday after the governor announced that he had suspended visits. The usual half-hour daily exercise has also been stopped for protesting prisoners.

One of the main prison officers' associations has called the situation "explosive". M. Chalandon himself has admitted that it is "very difficult" and called for calm.

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SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Watching the form

In a week when we went down to the Aussies at Lord's, I hear of English womanhood holding its own in, of all sports, rugby. Of the 22 people who attended the RFU's recent Eastern Counties course for the intermediate coaching award only one was a woman - Valerie Moore, of Wasps. But, says Tony Russ, the Saracens' coach who ran the course, she was the best of the bunch, achieving the second best marks on the theoretical side and the highest on the practical. A triumph of a different sort awaits a woman athlete in the World Student Games at Zagreb tomorrow: however badly she might do in her event, the girl judged the prettiest will be declared Miss Universiad. I gather that the front runners are Nawal el Moutawakil of Morocco, Gwen Torrence and Denean Howard of America, and the Chinese fencer, Li Hua Hua.

Just bootiful

At this year's Sloane Ranger Handicap at Sandown Park on Wednesday, *Harper's* and *Queen* magazine, the sponsor, will announce the winner of its Best Dressed Sloane competition. The prize is an 18-carat gold and diamond pin in the form of a welly. It was designed by Garrards and cost a thousand quid.

● Even the great ones drop the occasional blunder. Henry Cecil entered his horse Royal Hunt in the Raynes Park Filly Stakes next week. Only one thing wrong: Royal Hunt is a colt.

Briefs, too

In 1878, Clapton football club in east London made history by becoming the first British club to play in Europe - they went to Belgium and beat a Belgian team 7-0. Now they have become the first to be sponsored by a firm of solicitors and bear the proud legend Landau and Cohen on their breasts. Clapton had been having trouble negotiating a new lease on their Old Spotted Dog ground and took legal advice. The sponsorship deal was struck in part payment of the fee. At first the Law Society demurred, but has now given the go-ahead.

Hook-up

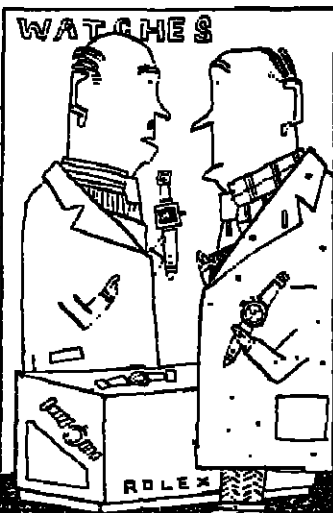
The era of the incredible boxing dalek is with us. It took East Germany to invent it: a fully computerized, mobile, fast-punching mechanical sparring machine called *Der Boxroboter* which does everything a human sparring partner does except get fed up. "It's hard to find good sparring partners, especially for heavyweights," said East German trade official Dieter Seala. He added: "Human sparring partners get tired after a few rounds, and they get punched too often." *Der Boxroboter* is man-shaped, with canvas-clad punching arms. It is faster across the ring than any human boxer. It can be programmed to fight in different ways: to go for your upper body, or belly, say, or to chivvy you into a corner. Some East German boxers are now using *Der Boxroboter* for 80 per cent of their sparring.

● A car parked at Kempton Park race course this week showed one of the most enviable of all number plates: I BET.

How's this?

Last Sunday Bath Cricket Club and the Cricket Society played a match with a finish to go straight into my collection of glorious cricketing moments. The last over began with the society needing 12 runs to win, with four wickets in hand. The first ball went for six. The second yielded nothing. Two were scored off the third. The fourth ball bowled the batsman. The fifth bowled the next man. Barry Goddard, the captain, faced the sixth ball. He missed it, it missed the wicket, and so he left his crease to shake hands with the opposition captain. He did not notice that the ball had been called a wide, and he was stumped. Since the ball was a wide, another ball had to be bowled. From it, then, the society needed three runs, and Bath one wicket. The new batsman narrowly escaped being timed out - understandably, he was not padded up. He made it, and pushed the final ball wide of the bowler, and attempted a run. But there was a run out. Bath had won by two runs, having at one stage required four wickets with three balls remaining. My informant, Richard Bromford, adds: "Despite the result there was no question of any bad feelings." Hm.

BARRY FANTONI



'Accurate to 1/100th of a second - the King of Morocco has one'

Sweden's Dark Age justice

by John Gorst

After being held in solitary confinement for 126 days, Captain Simon Hayward of the Life Guards was charged yesterday with smuggling 110 lb of cannabis into Sweden.

From the moment of his arrest he has protested his innocence - the car in which the drug was found belonged to his brother, who immediately disappeared. His was the only completely unknown face among the dozen or so men and women detained after the find, all of whom had apparently been under Swedish police surveillance for some time. Yet until recently he had been denied the most elementary comforts; he had even been denied consultation with Sir David Napley, the family's solicitor.

Since I visited him 11 weeks ago the only people allowed to see him have been consular officials and his mother, who was told she must not discuss any aspect of the case with him. To incarcerate a man, particularly one of Captain Hayward's standing, for so long in conditions of such severity would, to most people in this country, perhaps presume a guilt that has still to be tested in a court of law. And there, indeed, is the nub of the matter.

In Britain, a prisoner is considered innocent until proven guilty. In Sweden, there is a presumption of guilt from the moment of arrest. Here the law, administered by a completely independent judiciary, provides a shield for the individ-

ual against any misuse of power by the state. In Sweden, the judiciary is conceived as servant of the state, and the law is regarded as an instrument for its protection.

In British trials, in open court before judge and jury, the truth is arrived at in the process of searching examination and cross-examination. In Sweden, the meaningful examination takes place in the pre-trial process when, as in Captain Hayward's case, the suspect can be held if necessary in total isolation. This stage is confined exclusively to the public prosecutor and the police, with the suspect merely represented by a court-appointed defence lawyer. During this process the state virtually decides whether he is guilty; if he protests his innocence, the figures show clearly what little chance he has of being released after being put on trial.

A survey of the results of nearly 100,000 trials in Sweden reveals that in only one or two cases in every 100 does the defendant secure release. Essentially, the function of a Swedish court is not to decide whether a suspect is innocent or guilty, but to make a record of the evidence, and then to decide what penalty is appropriate once the defence and prosecution have had their say.

The treatment of evidence in this country and Sweden is so

different that it would be more appropriate to describe what they call evidence as testimony, much of which would be inadmissible in a British court, and even more of which would collapse under cross-examination.

The Swedish public are well prepared in this particular case. For four months, both prosecutor and police have conducted a sustained campaign to denigrate Captain Hayward through the columns of a docile press and over radio and television. Overt and covert briefings have disparaged anyone who has spoken well of him. Some at least of their "disinformation" has been both defamatory and untrue. In addition, it has been "suggested" to the media that they should not raise the issue of his civil rights.

Captain Hayward's defence lawyer, Tom Placht, normally reserved and taciturn, has expressed concern about the handling of this case. Last week he told an *Express* reporter: "I have never experienced a case which is so surrounded by question marks that will not be investigated."

What mystifies me is how an otherwise enlightened people, with so much of its culture respected and admired by the rest of the world, can accept a system of "justice" that harks back to the Dark Ages. For arbitrariness and

denial of human rights it is exceeded in modern times only by totalitarian states. In fairness to the Swedish people, however, I must add that a growing body of opinion is deeply critical of the law and its administration.

Captain Hayward's guilt or innocence is not for me to determine, although I confess that "beyond reasonable doubt" I personally, together with those who have served with him, and are familiar with his detestation of drugs, would be as surprised as they would be shocked.

What action should the government take? Opinion is stirring across the entire political spectrum. About 80 MPs have signed a motion calling for pressure to be exerted on Sweden to observe the spirit of the European Convention on Human Rights, of which it is a co-signatory. Some MPs intend to raise the matter at the next Council of Europe meeting in the autumn.

Whatever the verdict in the Hayward case, the Swedish government's daily violation of human rights will not simply disappear. More voices will be raised in protest. More questions will be asked. Public concern everywhere will continue until Sweden joins the rest of the civilized world in its respect for the rights of man.

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The author is Conservative MP for Hendon North.

John Grigg suggests a trip to Russia to speed the East-West thaw

A tour to crown them all



In China last October. Time now to think of Moscow

During her already long reign the Queen has paid 52 state visits to foreign countries (including, for the purposes of this figure, Commonwealth countries of which she is not head of state), and during the past week has received her 57th state visitor here. In some cases the dominant motive has been to celebrate and confirm an old friendship; in others, to assist a process of reconciliation.

Outstanding in the second category have been the exchanges of visits involving our principal enemies in the last war. The Queen has welcomed three presidents of the German Federal Republic to this country - 1958, 1972 and 1986 - and has herself been on two state visits to West Germany - in 1965 and 1978. By the same token, the Emperor of Japan came here in 1971, and the Queen returned the compliment in 1975.

(Incidentally, Emperor Hirohito must surely be the only man in history to have been twice a Knight of the Garter, having been one in his youth, before the war, thrown out after Pearl Harbour, and readmitted in 1971.)

As for the other main ex-enemy state, Italy, there have been two visits in each direction: Italian presidents here in 1958 and 1969, the Queen there in 1961 and 1980.

But what of ideological enemies of the cold war period? The great divide between communism and Western liberalism has proved an insuperable obstacle to state visits. Indeed, the Queen's most recent ceremonial trip abroad - last October - was to the largest (in population) of all communist countries - China.

Even the Warsaw Pact has yielded one state visitor, President Ceausescu of Romania, who came here in 1978. But the Queen has not returned the visit, nor has she yet been to any other country behind the Iron Curtain. Above all, she has not visited the Soviet Union, and until recently this was understandable enough. There was no friendship there to cement, nor - except, perhaps, during the brief early Khrushchev period - any significant chance of reconciling differences.

Even while Russia was a monarchy there was little contact between British and Russian heads of state. No British reigning monarch has ever visited Russia, and the only reigning Tsars who came here were Peter the Great - unofficially in 1697 (when he lodged in Deptford and made himself unpopular with the locals by riotous revelry), Alexander I in 1814, and the doomed Nicholas II, who stayed with Queen Victoria at Balmoral in 1896.

The growing popularity of athletics has spawned a circuit of international meetings that rely for their attraction on record attempts increasingly tainted by pacemaking.

A pacemaker is hired in an attempt to achieve a fast time, which is essential for a promoter in obtaining sponsorship, crowds and television coverage, and consequently profit for his meeting. So last Monday in Nice, Ray Flynn of Ireland was paid £5,180 to act as a "hare" for three of the four laps in the unsuccessful attempt of Said Aouita, of Morocco, to lower Steve Cram's world mile record. And in Paris on Thursday James Mays, an American 800m runner, was here when Aouita broke the 2,000m record. Next Wednesday, in the latest of the 16 Mobil Grand Prix meetings, there will be pacemakers in the middle-distance races, the most glamorous events, at the Golden Gala in Rome.

Pacemaking itself is nothing new. In the 1930s Sydney Wooderson of Britain set three official world records in specially framed handicap events with different partners towing him round the track. When Roger Bannister ran the first sub-four minute mile in 1954, he was aided by Chris Brasher and Chris Chataway, who led for the first three of the four laps. Bannister publicly paid tribute to their help in breaking the famous barrier.

The Bolshevik revolution obviously created a profound estrangement, more especially as it led to the murder of the Tsar and his family. Nicholas II was a first cousin of George V, who therefore felt the outrage as a close relation no less than as a fellow sovereign. Moreover, his conscience must have been troubled by the knowledge that he had been unwilling, for reasons of dynastic prudence, to give his cousin asylum in Britain, even though the government of the day was prepared to let him in.

When, in 1924, the first Labour government gave diplomatic recognition to the Soviet regime, George V was able to avoid receiving its first head of mission because he was a mere *chargé d'affaires*, not an ambassador. Even when an ambassador was appointed, in 1929, the King pleaded illness (Kenneth Rose tells us) as an excuse for having the man's credentials accepted on his behalf by the Prince of Wales. But a few months later he brought himself to shake the ambassador's hand at a levee.

The reign of George VI witnessed the wartime Anglo-Soviet alliance and a wave of pro-Russian feeling in Britain, of

which the sword presented by the King to Stalingrad was a symbolic expression. The gift was formally announced in a letter from the King to President Kalinin, and the sword itself handed to Stalin by Churchill at the Tehran conference. (It has proved more durable than the name of the heroic city, which is now called Volgograd.)

The post-war freeze put an end to such gestures. But with the death of Stalin, and the denunciation of his regime by Khrushchev, there seemed for a time some prospect of better relations. In the spring of 1956 Khrushchev visited Britain with Bulganin. This was not technically a state visit, since neither was head of the Soviet state; but it was important, none the less.

The Queen received "B and K" at Windsor on April 22, at the rather odd hour of 5.30 pm. But what mattered was that she did receive them. Earlier they had sent presents for Prince Philip and Prince Charles (a horse each). In February, 1967, she gave a dinner at Buckingham Palace for another Soviet leader, Kossygin. But as prime minister he, too, was not in the strict sense a state visitor.

Now at last the time may have

come for higher marks of courtesy between the two countries. If we are prepared to credit Mr Gorbachov with a serious desire to change the Soviet system, and above all if we consider him sincere in wishing to bring about a détente in East-West relations, then we must surely give him all the backing we can.

Mrs Thatcher's recent visit to Moscow was probably as helpful to him as it was to her, showing that an ostensibly hard-line Western leader was willing to be his guest and, while still treating him as an opponent, to record her appreciation of him. In the same spirit a trip to Russia by the Prince and Princess of Wales, or even a full-blown state visit by the Queen, is now surely worth discussing.

Of course any relation, however distant, of the last Tsar must hesitate to give this ultimate recognition to the regime regime. The ghosts of Ekaterinburg are not to be ignored, and still less the innumerable, anonymous ghosts of the Gulag. But during the early years of the revolution Mr Gorbachov was not even alive, and he is too young, also, to bear any responsibility for Stalin's crimes.

The veteran Mr Gromyko, now head of the Soviet state, certainly was around during the Great Terror. But he was exclusively concerned with foreign affairs and so far less culpable than, for instance, Khrushchev. Yet the Queen did not shrink from receiving Khrushchev at Windsor.

Precisely because of the background, a British royal visit to Moscow would have a uniquely cathartic significance, beyond that of visits by French and American presidents. It would mark more dramatically than anything else could the normalization of the Soviet state, and the abandonment of its mission to overthrow all non-communist states. And the people of Russia, who gave a warm welcome to Mrs Thatcher, could be expected to greet the Queen even more warmly.

State visits have a useful function in politics, mainly reflecting, though to some extent influencing, the course of events. One of the most famous - that of Edward VII to Paris at the beginning of May, 1903 - did not in itself bring about the Anglo-French entente, but helped greatly to create the atmosphere in which it could be clinched the following year.

A visit by the Queen to Russia could be equally effective, and might create a comparable place in history.

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When an athlete is paid to lose

What is new in the 1980s is that with athletes now officially paid, some runners regularly prefer to act as pacemakers rather than compete in races. As Sir Arthur Gold, the president of the European Athletic Association, says: "There is something fundamentally rotten when men are paid to lose. They are getting a bigger fee for running and dropping out than in completing the distance."

Many people in athletics are concerned that the sport is too often a series of time trials for one outstanding runner, and except for the major championships like the Olympics or September's World Championships in Rome, is now becoming showbusiness.

Ron Pickering, the television commentator and former Welsh national coach, thinks that pacemaking is now "devaluing" the sport and debases any previous records that have been set in genuine races.

Runners like Aouita or Cram attempt world records knowing they are not going to be seriously challenged. The pair have not raced each other for two years. It is

financially more advisable for them to compete individually in record attempts than to risk defeat and have their appearance money rapidly diminish. Setting a world record in the 800m, 1500m, mile or 5000m can bring an athlete between £15,000 and £20,000 but appearance money can fall to less than £5,000 if he is badly beaten or loses form.

In the mile, 1500m or 5000m, a pacemaker is essential because the best physiological way to achieve a maximum performance is through an even, fast pace. The pacemaker also relieves the athlete attempting the record of the mental strain of running at a specified speed for the opening laps and simultaneously shields him from any wind. When the pacemaker has achieved his task, for as long as he is capable, he steps off the track.

Because records are becoming more difficult to break - no men's track records were set last year for the first time since they were officially recognized in 1913 - a pacemaker of skilled judgement is increasingly vital. James Mays is particularly popular because he is so consistent, and was used to help

Cram to the current mile record of 3min 46.32 seconds. He admits it is more profitable to pace a race than to run second. "Athletes get a bonus when they break a world record and if the hare is smart he fixes himself up with his own bonus for getting the job done," he says. Mays has virtually given up competition for pacemaking.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation, which formalized the £727,000 circuit of 16 Mobil Grand Prix events, did have regulations prohibiting pacemaking in record attempts but this proved impossible to implement. Its technical committee will again consider the question next month.

Mike Gee, the IAAF technical officer, emphasizes that the IAAF needs a rule that can be clearly identified and policed. Ron Pickering's proposal that any record where the pacemaker does not finish should automatically be disallowed raises the question whether the athlete, if he claims he was injured or ill on dropping out, should be medically examined.

The IAAF accepts that pacemaking is particularly contentious at the moment, partly because the media has highlighted the differences between the championships and the Grand Prix permit meetings. Gee says: "There is no practical alternative which has credence but this does not mean everything is satisfactory."

John Goodbody

Robert Kilroy-Silk

Work: one big danger zone

No one is safe from violence today, even at work. The taxman and the taxi driver, the teacher, the social worker and the bus conductor are all increasingly at risk of assault. Nurses, of all people, are in the front line, with student nurses the most vulnerable. According to the Health and Safety Commission 36 per cent of student nurses surveyed recently had sustained minor injuries in the past year; 40 per cent had been subjected to violent abuse.

The Health Service is a dangerous place to work. The commission says that one in every 200 Health Service workers had been attacked seriously enough to require medical treatment while 11 in 100 needed first aid; one in 11 of Health Service employees had been threatened with a weapon. As the Royal College of Nursing has acknowledged, most attacks occur on hospital premises. Accident, emergency, and the general and psychiatric wards are the most dangerous places. A staggering 42 per cent of ambulance staff have been threatened.

Matters have become so serious that one Birmingham hospital recently hired security guards to protect nurses from drunken patients on Friday and Saturday nights. The Royal College of Nursing now runs self-defence courses and urges health authorities to do likewise.

That nurses and other Health Service employees should be physically assaulted within the confines of a hospital while caring for the sick is incredible and disturbing. But they are not alone. It has been calculated that about 50 per cent of the working population now risk violent attacks while performing their duties.

The incidence of violence at work has become so high as to warrant the TUC convening a special conference on the subject. While Norman Willis, the general secretary, bemoaned the general rise in the number of assaults, a Nalco official pointed to specific examples: the trading standards officer beaten up because he successfully prosecuted over a dangerously overweight lorry; the electricity board employee attacked with a hatchet while attempting to disconnect the supply of a householder who had not paid his bill; housing officials threatened and assaulted. At the very moment that he was speaking, more than 100 staff at the new housing benefit office in Liverpool were striking over the council's refusal to erect security barriers to protect them from abusive and violent claimants.

Since the conference other

occupational groups have been drawing attention to their difficulties. Among them are Birmingham taxi firms who, defying police warnings, are setting up vigilante patrols to shield their drivers from late-night violence. One proprietor claims that without a protection squad his 25 drivers would refuse to answer calls from certain "no-go" areas. Their fears are corroborated by milkmen, postmen, firemen, police officers, doctors and social workers, all of whom are reported to be refusing to make calls in some areas at certain times.

Even the sober and reliable Inland Revenue Staff Association has demanded more protection for its members working in tax offices. According to the union they face increasing violence at the tax office counters as well as when making debt collections.

Today even teachers are at risk from their pupils. One survey has suggested that up to a quarter of all teachers have been threatened and that 10 per cent have been attacked. This is probably an underestimate. As one of the main teacher unions claims, many assaults go unreported. Some indication of the scale of the problem is shown by the 27 recorded cases of assaults on teachers reported by Merseyside police last year.

What then, is the government doing about this new occupational hazard? It is conducting investigations into the scale of the problem. Yet welcome and important as the surveys conducted by the Health and Safety Commission, the Tavistock Institute and the Cranfield Institute of Technology among others, it is action that is needed.

The first step should be to require all employers of the legal obligation placed upon them by Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work Act to take all reasonable steps to protect their employees. The second should be to introduce the kind of "assault avoidance" measures, such as video cameras and screens, that have already demonstrated their effectiveness. Assaults fell by 27 per cent when screens were introduced on London buses.

Better still, of course, would be to identify and to eradicate the causes of this disease. Next best would be to catch, convict and punish the offenders. On this occasion we will settle for second best. It would certainly make the biggest contribution to safety at work.

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The author was a Merseyside Labour MP, 1974-86.

Michael Kinsley

Aids fuss that can only die

Washington
A year from now, nobody in America will be talking much about Aids. That's not a prediction about the course of the disease, which will probably be as expected - about 300,000 cases and 200,000 fatalities by 1991. It's simply an assertion that something else will come along.

Americans are incapable of maintaining the current level of hysteria about an issue for long. Remember nuclear war? Remember drugs? Oh, Aids is worse? So you say now. But as recently as 1983, nuclear war threatened all human life. If Aids kills 54,000 Americans in 1991, as predicted, it will rate fifth, between chronic lung disease and pneumonia, as a cause of death. The victims will mostly be young, admittedly, but the deaths can easily be absorbed into the background noise of a busy, distractible society.

Hastening this development will be the growing realization that Aids will almost certainly not break out into the general heterosexual, non-drug-using community. A woman's chance of getting Aids from sleeping once with an infected man is reported to be about one in a thousand. For men the odds are even better.

Since the keepers of the *Zeitgeist* tend to be heterosexual men who don't use intravenous drugs, the era of Aids television specials and news magazine covers is just about over.

The end of the Aids "crisis" may lead to complacency about taking precautions against a danger which, though small for most people, is genuine. Knowing that the disease will primarily affect a widely disdained minority may reduce society's commitment to finding a vaccine or cure. But the demise of Aids hysteria will at least undermine conservative attempts to exploit the disease.

American conservatives are more obsessed with Aids than any other group, apart from gays themselves. But the conservative Aids crusade is illogical. Concern about discrimination against Aids victims, says White House domestic policy adviser Gary Bauer, "takes a clear back seat to the protection of those Americans who are not yet infected." But you can only be infected by Aids through behaviour which these crusaders classify as immoral. Anyone who is chaste before marriage, monogamous within marriage, and avoids illegal drugs is at virtually no risk.

If the conservative crusade limited itself to promoting this gospel, there would be no puzzle. But conservatives are also zealots for widespread mandatory Aids test-

ing, or even - in the case of troglodyte Senator Jesse Helms - for isolating those with Aids. Yet for people who behave themselves as Bauer and Helms would wish, these measures are superfluous. Usually it is the left which accuses of using the government to shield people from the consequences of their own actions.

Clearly then, the spread of Aids is not the main concern of the most fervent advocates of a "tough" policy on Aids. Gays and civil libertarians are right to suspect what might otherwise be reasonable calls for increased Aids testing. They are right to suspect that the compromise between protecting the individual sufferer from discrimination and protecting society is no compromise at all to those who advocate testing. And they are right not to trust promises that test results will not be abused.

Even where Aids hysteria and discrimination against Aids victims bring no conceivable public health benefit, the Reagan administration has been indifferent, or worse, towards individual problems. The Aids cannot be spread by non-sexual personal contact. Yet the Attorney General, Ed Meese, publicly endorsed the Washington police decision to wear rubber gloves while supervising a gay demonstration at an Aids conference in May.

Until rebuffed by the Supreme Court, the Justice Department took the fatuous position that job discrimination against Aids carriers is permissible, since an "individual's (real or perceived) ability to transmit a disease is not a handicap" under the law. By this cramped logic, an employer could legally refuse to hire blacks on the grounds of an irrational belief that working near blacks causes cancer.

Times of emergency, it is said, are when society's claims are at their peak and individual rights must bend the most. That's true. But times of extremity are also when irrational fears most threaten minority rights. The economic distress of Weimar Germany was fertile ground for anti-Semitic paranoia. Invasion hysteria made possible the incarceration of Japanese-Americans during the Second World War. People who lived through such episodes say: "You have to have been there to understand how it could have happened." With luck, and so thanks to America's present leaders, we will avoid having to do something similar about Aids some day.

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The author is editor of *New Republic*.

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INCORRECT REFERENCE

There are at present 115 airlines flying from the runways of the British Airports Authority. If the planned takeover by British Airways of its smaller rival, British Caledonian, is allowed there will be 114.

This should put in perspective some of the wilder claims being made about the threat to competition if the bid goes through. There are only a very few routes where the two airlines combined would have a monopoly. And on these the expedient of allowing another operator to take over the licences of BCal or BA would ensure that customers have a choice.

But there is clearly widespread concern about the merger which will make it difficult for Sir Gordon Borrie, of the Office of Fair Trading, not to recommend a reference to the Monopolies Commission and for Lord Young not to agree. That should not happen.

Sir Gordon should not recommend a reference. If he does, the Government should not agree. And if it does, the Monopolies Commission should rule as soon as possible that the merger can go ahead.

What are the arguments against the merger? It is suggested that it makes nonsense of the Government's airline competition policy. It cannot do that, because the policy has been shown to be a nonsense already.

Relying on the verdict of the Edwards Committee back in 1969, the Government supported a multi-airline industry. The Edwards report said that should mean a strong second force and ever since then governments of both parties and Sir Adam Thomson have been trying to create one. But what is magic about having two British airlines trying to compete across the board in world markets? Why not three or four or more? And what is the logic of saying that we should always have a second airline to "take over an international route from BA should the need arise". What are the circumstances which will make that happen and what is the airline supposed to do with its aircraft while they are waiting?

The consumer does not care whether his supplier is British or foreign so there is no need for a second British carrier to ensure competition. And the experience of past years shows that, far from two airlines giving us a greater share of the world market, it can actually reduce the number of people flying the flag if BCal as a weak competitor has to be given the right to fly a route in an effort to make the weaker airline viable.

What those who say that the merger should be blocked presumably favour is that BCal either be bought out by someone else, or that

the Government should change the rules to make it more profitable — probably by giving it some of the routes which BA currently flies.

It is a very odd kind of competition which is kept going by constant transfers of resources from the efficient and successful to those who are failing. It would in fact not be competition at all but State-enforced duopoly, in which the profits of the companies involved would depend on their ability to please not the customer but Mr Nicholas Ridley or whoever happened to be Secretary of State for Transport at the time.

Instead of going down this road, the Government ought to be doing more to promote real competition which would benefit consumers and reward the efficient while preventing BA using its large market power to rig the market.

It should encourage the European Commission to press ahead in the European Court to break up the cartels which disfigure the European air market, still a long way from any true deregulation. And it should give the independent airlines a chance to compete by removing as many restrictions as it can on entry to the market and ensuring that BA does not abuse its position at Heathrow to keep competing airlines out of the attractive routes.

But, advocates of a reference to the Monopolies Commission argue, even if all of BA's claims about the merits of the deal are true they ought to be exposed to the examination of the commission, which should then make its own recommendation. References to the Monopolies Commission are the Department of Trade and Industry's equivalent of the Royal Commissions so loved by the Wilson government. They postpone the need for decision and allow the Government room to try to pass the blame.

Yet what evidence is there that Sir Godfrey le Quesne, QC, excellent lawyer though he may be, is any better at deciding what makes business sense than Lord King and the market? This is not just a matter involving this particular takeover. Merger policy is in a mess because the criterion which dominates above all others is market share which effectively prevents the emergence of powerful British companies created within industries and promotes the creation of conglomerates. As Lord Young prepares to receive the report of his officials who have been studying the matter he should look to merger policy as an area where his own instinct for deregulation should be trusted. He ought to make a start by not interfering with this merger.

POLICING THE POLICE

The crime was three-fold. It is a serious matter when strong young men descend from a van and attack a group of boys in the street. When the attackers are police officers the offence is far graver, and if the policemen who attacked those schoolboys in the summer of 1983 had been charged that same night, they would of course have merited far harsher sentences than if they had been mere football hooligans, or a racist gang or simply drunken louts out to make trouble just for the sake of it.

But they were not charged that night. This was because, as well as being hooligans and bullies, they were also liars and had colleagues prepared to lie for them. When the element of conspiracy is added, the first thought after the verdicts in the Holloway Road case is whether the five policemen did not get off fairly lightly.

The argument that they have also foregone their careers and their pensions is no more than the small change of the standard plea in mitigation. A more substantial argument against longer sentences, perhaps, is the shrewd suspicion that the policeman's lot in prison is not a happy one, certainly while the governors of Britain's prisons are probably in no position to be able to guarantee that they know what is going on in every corner of them.

The sentence is, however, secondary. The truism applies here that it is not so much the severity that matters; but the sure knowledge that the culprits will not get away with it. That, unfortunately, is the problem. In this case, they nearly did get away with it. And it took years for the case to come to court. Yet it was never in doubt, from the start, that the boys had been attacked, and that there were only a limited number of policemen who could have done it.

The sense of shame at Scotland Yard, and the sincerity of their efforts to get to the bottom of the matter, are not in doubt. Nor is the efficiency or fairness of investigating officers sent in when there are complaints. The simple fact is that the system did not work promptly — and delay has meant a significant loss of

prestige at a time when the police need all the public support they can get. The system nearly did not work at all. It was only when the new Police Complaints Authority came on the scene that there was a breakthrough, almost at a stroke.

So the case has significantly weakened the old argument that police, left to themselves, make the best investigators of allegations against policemen. A new procedure, which was due to come into force anyhow, ensures an independent element in inquiries. It is the Authority, not the police, who determine the course of investigations, even though detailed questioning is in the hands of police officers appointed by them.

There are, however, experienced criminal lawyers who have those investigative abilities as much as police officers, and who can acquaint themselves with any parts of police procedures they do not know. When there is particular public concern, as there was in this case, the Authority should entrust the job to them.

Trite though it may sound, the Holloway case should be a reminder that crime, not least street crime, cannot be reduced if a police force is known, even on isolated occasions, to hit people in the streets. We are never going to get back to the ideals, if they ever existed, of Dock Green, where wise, gruff old bobbies, meeting a crowd of youths coming away from a fair, would know how to exchange just the right few words of greeting to convey the message that the law is powerful, but genial and even-handed, and something you automatically turn to for the common good.

When boys, seeing a police van, run off in evidently justified terror, as they did that August night, it is evidence of not just bad policing but inefficient policing — of the hostility of those who have to be part of the fight against crime. The "street-credibility" of the police is not just an idealistic dream. It is a matter of hard, practical importance, and most policemen know that.

FOURTH LEADER

There is a man in Anchorage, Alaska, who has had an idea. No, not a mere idea; an idea. In that chilly, hilly State, there is a body of water called Glacier Lake, in which icebergs bob, broken off from the mountain glaciers that give the lake its name. This enterprising fellow went out one day, chipped off a chunk of ice, melted it, put the resultant water in bottles, slapped on a label giving its provenance, and began to sell it. What is more, the public began to buy it.

You never know. Few of us would have guessed that there would be a market for plain water among people who can get as much of it as they want by turning the tap in the kitchen sink; but it seems that there is no accounting for tastes, even when the commodity under discussion has no taste at all. Mr Mark Wilson (for that is our hero's name) now has a thriving export market as well as a domestic one, but there is no clue there; he sells abroad not to the parched regions of Middle East desert, but to Japan, and boasts that he is approaching 300 tons in sales to that country.

Work it out; everybody will recall the mnemonic by which we used to keep the formula in mind:

A pint of pure water
Weighs a pound and a quarter.

That means that Mr Wilson will shortly have unloaded 537,600 pint bottles of water on the Japanese. And remember that he makes no medicinal or other claims for his variety; plain water in bottles is what it is, and plain water in bottles is what he calls it.

Emerson was thought to have gone quite far when he said that thing about the man who makes a better mouse-trap than his neighbour. But Mr Wilson has gone not just one better, but two: he hasn't made anything, and there is no reason to suppose that his water is better than any other water.

Britain used to have men like that, selling sand to sheikhs and refrigerators to Eskimos. Surely the breed has not entirely died out? If not, there is one way in which they can go as far as Mr Wilson, and possibly farther. If he can put plain water in bottles, they can put plain air in tins. A gulp of guaranteed English air would comfort many an expatriate, and even at home there could well be a market for the stuff among marathon runners gasping as they come into the final stretch. Forward, entrepreneurs; there is a fortune awaiting you. Two fortunes, actually: after tinned air, there is always deep-frozen sunshine.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Doubts about airline merger

From the Director General of the Air Transport Users Committee
Sir, There is doubtless still a lot to be heard for and against the proposed British Airways and British Caledonian merger, but the following must be said at once.

BA already have a very dominant position throughout the whole of the scheduled service network served by UK airlines. The merger with BCal would substantially enhance that dominance. This might not necessarily be bad for the travelling public where the protection that competition affords would come from other mega-carriers on long-haul routes — not only those from the USA, but also from the Far East (although significantly the most effective UK long-haul competition, that on the London/Tokyo route, will be lost by this merger).

But on the short-haul and European routes we want more, not less, competition. Its merits have been adequately demonstrated in the recent survey of the Civil Aviation Authority on the effect of competition on the major domestic trunk routes since 1984 and can also be seen by what has occurred on certain European routes following some easing of the relevant bilateral agreements.

With the merger of BA and BCal the ability of the independents to provide that competition would be materially reduced and further more BA would assume a dominant position at the country's second major hub airport, Gatwick, similar to that which it already holds at Heathrow.

The user interest and the development of a sound competitive aviation industry in this country absolutely require that ways be found to reduce BA/BCal's threatened dominating influence on the domestic and short-haul European routes so as to allow the existing independents and the emergent scheduled airlines (i.e., Air Europe etc) not only to survive but to expand and offer choice to users.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BOTWOOD,
Director General,
Air Transport Users Committee,
129 Kingsway, WC2.

De minimis

From Mr Robin Parker
Sir, I find the term "a quantum leap", to mean "a giant leap", an irritating conflict between the physical and the verbal.

In the world of physics, the word quantum is uniquely reserved for the smallest possible change in a given quantity. Note in this context that, exactly 18 years ago this month, Neil Armstrong as a trained scientist did not speak of making quantum leaps off his lunar module; if he had, the movement would have been imperceptible to either him or us. And when Dr David Owen spoke in recent months about teachers deserving a quantum leap in pay, was he forgetful of the physics in his medical training?

Yours sincerely,
ROBIN PARKER,
43 Milestone Close,
Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

Boost for beef

From Dr A. C. O'Sullivan
Sir, The total consumption of beef is rising in the UK. First-quarter consumption was up 4.7 per cent on the same period last year. While John Young (report, June 29) is correct in reporting a decline in the amount of beef eaten in the home, that is only to be expected because we are all eating more out of the home. Indeed, in restaurants, public houses and other eating establishments beefsteak is by far and away Britain's most popular food.

To that extent, the traditional roast is less popular today and the meat and livestock industry has been instrumental in directing farmers and butchers to the new market opportunities for beef presented by contemporary cooking methods, changing attitudes to diet and health, smaller family units and the way in which people shop. At this very moment, for example, MLC (Meat and Live-

Screening for Aids

From Dr John Seale and others
Sir, Routine testing of some hospital patients for antibodies to HIV (the Aids virus) which you suggest (leading article, July 3) would help to clarify the various means by which it is being transmitted and the rate of its spread into the general population.

Three female health-care workers infected with HIV in 1986 by minor contamination of their hands or face with blood on a single occasion were recently reported by the US Public Health Service. Two of them were detected only because they were blood donors and routinely checked every time they donated blood. Similarly a mother infected by her sick one-year-old son was discovered because she was a blood donor.

It was only the mass routine screening, already compulsory for all blood donors in the United States and western Europe, which picked out three of these four cases. This routine testing has provided compelling direct evidence, which would not otherwise have been available, of the real danger to nurses of infection by blood soiling their skin and mothers caring for their own sick children.

In the light of this new evidence the medical profession must now give the public a clear lead on

Tangled tale of council house sales

From Lord Donoughue
Sir, I have refrained from joining the correspondence on the role of the Downing Street Policy Unit because the original article by Mr Lipsey (June 26) was unworthily personal and, as Sir John Hoskyns's letter of July 2 devastatingly demonstrates, inaccurate.

However, Sir Peter Lazarus's intervention (July 15) on the issue of selling council houses calls for a response. It is certainly true that he personally took a commendably positive approach during visits to the unit in Downing Street. But those were only two of many meetings there to consider this initiative: in Cabinet Committee, in official committees and in personal discussions with the Prime Minister.

It soon emerged that there was strong opposition from within the Department of the Environment, mainly at ministerial and special adviser level. I have never said or believed that this originated with Anthony Crosland, with whom I had several private discussions at the time. But, unfortunately, Mr Crosland in Cabinet Committee did not display the full enthusiasm for the principle which Sir Peter Lipsey, as Crosland's aide, often expressed sharp political hostility on this issue, which is why Joe Haines (letter, July 8) did not actually convey a "somewhat misleading" view.

Sir Peter admits he knew nothing of the political dimension — which was decided — and states that the only reservations held by the department were "on timing and methods". Yet which alternative and so far unrevealed methods to sell council houses did they prefer? The amendments which officials proposed were gratefully accepted and incorporated in the policy unit scheme. What timing did they prefer (please Lord make us virtuous, but not yet)? Why then did the department formally announce its rejection of council house sales in the ministerial statement in 1978?

It is one of the hazards of writing history as a witness that rarely does anybody ever see the whole picture — therefore I explicitly described my recent memoirs, as "a selective view" from Downing Street. Perhaps somebody will now reveal, since the Prime Minister certainly and the Environment Department allegedly were so enthusiastic (and the

Decisive match

From Mr H. B. Alvarez
Sir, "On This Day" (July 3) discussed the relative skills of those two champions, Mlle Suzanne Lenglen and Mrs Helen Wills Moody in 1926. The article posed the question, who would win a match between them.

I have just been reading *From Baku to Baker Street*, by Flora Solomon and Barnett Litvinoff (Collins), and on page 130 it says a match — "The Great Match" — was played, apparently in 1928, at Monte Carlo. Result, a win for Mlle Lenglen, 6-3, 6-4.

Yours faithfully,
H. B. ALVAREZ,
135 Abbotshbury Road, W14, July 15.

stock Commission) is teaching hundreds of butchers new cutting methods for beef, methods which considerably increase its appeal.

Our advice on lean beef is equally clear, namely, that a considerable market for lean meat is developing which farmers and butchers should seek to supply not by switching exclusively to lean cattle and meat but by extending the choice of beef offered to the public.

As for meat from alternative production systems, only in the last few days has MLC, in conjunction with Food From Britain, published the first in-depth analysis of this market. We conclude that the production of this type of meat should be encouraged since it, too, adds to consumer choice.

Yours sincerely,
A. C. O'SULLIVAN,
Meat and Livestock Commission, PO Box 44, Queensway House, Bletchley, Buckinghamshire.

testing. We suggest, first, that all hospital patients whose blood is tested for any purpose should also be screened automatically for HIV antibodies, provided that they have not already recently tested negative.

Second, hospital personnel who have direct contact with patients, including all doctors and nurses, should be tested routinely each year. Individuals should be informed of the result of their tests and the public health services be notified.

Curriculum cut to the core

From Dr P. F. Jones
Sir, Baroness Hooper confirmed last week that the national "core" curriculum will take up some 80 — 90 per cent of the timetable. That will leave a few periods a week to cater for every subject debarrd from the "core".

My own concern for Latin may illustrate the dangers. If it is deemed "not allowable" in years one to three, it will be restricted to those willing to begin it in year four and take a GCSE in year five — i.e., the linguistically most gifted. Small classes will result; the cry for "economies" will follow; and Latin will end in our schools.

At a time when your own columns have carried important testimony to the advantages that some Latin can bring, especially to less able pupils, when A-level numbers in classical subjects have risen by 20 per cent in the last seven years, and when universities have nearly 7,000 students taking some form of classics (more than was the case 15 years ago), a decision to cut away the very roots of the subject from our schools would give the electoral trumpet calls of "freedom" and "choice" (let alone supply and demand) a thinly hypocritical squeak.

Yours etc,
PETER F. JONES,
The University of Newcastle upon Tyne,
Department of Classics,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
July 11.

From Mrs Ann Carlton
Sir, I can shed some light on the political discussions that took place on the sale of council houses when Mr Crosland was Secretary of State for the Environment.

While pressure in favour of forcing local authorities to sell council houses was being exerted on Mr Crosland by No 10, he held a departmental meeting with Mr Silkin (Minister for Planning and Local Government) and the two political advisers: Mr Lipsey and myself. Mr Lipsey was in favour of legislation.

As a former secretary of the Labour Party's Housing Study Group, I recalled one of its meetings in the 1960s. Then, in response to my request that any of its 20-odd members who had ever lived in a council house should put up their hands, I found I was the only one present who had lived in a council house. This confirmed me in my opposition to middle-class homeowners sitting on party policy committees and telling the working classes that it was a sin to want home ownership.

However, I also pointed out that, after the coming local elections, Labour would control far fewer local authorities. Legislation on the lines suggested by No 10 would have seemed an attack on the remaining Labour local authorities. It would have been mistaken timing and a waste of energy. The party in local government needed time to restore its self-confidence after the furore over Clay Cross; and No 10 needed time to refine its ideas on what the legislation should contain.

Mr Silkin agreed with my arguments. It was these views which Mr Crosland took on board and which led to the approach referred to in Sir Peter Lazarus's letter.

Yours etc,
ANN CARLTON,
28 Westminster Mansions,
Great Smith Street, SW1,
July 15.

The key to energy

From Mr S. F. Steward
Sir, Your Energy Correspondent suggests (July 15) that the Central Electricity Generating Board will remain intact, with some increased responsibilities, after privatization. I am not sure that the secretary of state would be wise to adopt this solution.

The privatization of electricity supply presents many problems, but it also promises important benefits — the reduction of public borrowing, wider share-ownership, removal of Government intervention and the introduction of competition. In the distribution of electricity there can be no internal competition between areas, but competition with gas will intensify when both industries are in private hands.

It is only in generation that real competition can be introduced into electricity supply and this means splitting the CEBG into two or more generating companies. Only in this way can there be a choice of major generating sources, in addition to supplies from France and industrial concerns.

The key to this is the "grid", the common carrier of electric power, and if there is to be uninhibited competition this national transmission system must be separate from the generating companies.

A solution would be to retain the "grid" as a public utility, on the lines of the 1927 Central Electricity Board, thus providing the means of effective competition as well as safeguarding the national interest.

Yours faithfully,
STANLEY STEWARD
(Chairman, South Western Electricity Board, 1948-55),
The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1.

Soviet dissidents

From Mrs Natalya Rubinshtein
Sir, I would like to make clear that my article, "Glasnost: a battle half won" (July 1), was a response to a "Statement to the press" by Resistance International, a group of prominent Soviet dissidents from the Soviet Union, which was published by *The Times* on March 16, rather than a general description of the attitudes of Russian émigrés towards the present policy of liberalisation in the Soviet Union.

The "third wave" of émigrés from the USSR includes tens of thousands of people whose attitudes towards the present changes range from extreme mistrust to warmest sympathy.

Yours sincerely,
NATALYA RUBINSHEIN,
32 Audley Road, NW4,
July 14.

Sauce for gander

From Mr D. M. Sherwood
Sir, According to your paper today (July 14) Miss Jo Richardson has been appointed as women's spokesman in the Shadow Cabinet. Surely in equity there should also be a man's spokeswoman.

Yours faithfully,
D. M. SHERWOOD,
15 Royal York Crescent,
Clifton, Bristol, Avon.

ON THIS DAY

July 18 1859
The Tory government resigned in June, 1859, and the Liberals returned, led by Palmerston. A leading article concluded the Conservative politicians is to constitute Her Majesty's Opposition...

BANQUET TO LORD DERBY AND MR DISRAELI

Mr. Disraeli next rose, and was greeted with warm applause. He said, — My lords and gentlemen, it has been stated that the period of party politics is past in England, but this meeting is not in consonance with that opinion. I have always been of opinion that party government and Parliamentary government were identical. — no party, no Parliament; because consider what must be the constitution of this country, where, if not the supreme power, at least a great proportion of the authority of the State is entrusted to the two Houses of Parliament, amounting in number to not much more than 1,000 individuals! If you were for a moment to attempt to realize what must be the position of this country if there were no combination and no co-operation among those individuals, you would at once see that there could be no barrier against the authority of the Crown or the ambition of a Minister, and that it is only by party that a Parliamentary government becomes indeed practicable. When you read, as you frequently do, that the line of demarcation between parties has ceased, and that party principles and party feeling no longer exist, you may depend upon it that some attempt is about to be made against the liberty of the country, or some important interest in it. At a moment when party is desired to believe us, consider what has been the difference between our famous Parliament, which has so long existed, and those national assemblies which many of us have seen arise and disappear like exhalations amid scenes of continental disturbance. Their bases have been broad enough, their elements have been popular enough, the members of them have been returned, not only by an extended but by universal suffrage, yet they never took any deep root in the country — the only reason was that in those assemblies party did not exist, while in the Parliament of England party has existed. (Cheers) ... a great party is a fact which history can alone produce. You must have not merely great property to support it, and that, also, generally diffused; you must not only represent the predominant opinion of the hour, but you must possess traditional influence, and that cannot be attained except by the experience and the achievements not merely of years, but of centuries, by those opinions, sentiments, and even prejudices which can only be elicited and established in a course of time, and by the recollection of what men have done who have been united together, and what fluctuations of fortune and political vicissitudes they have undergone in vindication of some great cause with which they have all their lives sympathized. It is quite impossible that a vigorous and direct policy can be maintained in this country, unless the principles of party are recognized as one of the first bonds of public life. I hold that there are two parties in this country, and only two. There may be many opinions prevalent — there may be many noisy sections, but when you come to the question of the possession of power you find practically that there are only two parties...



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Lecture

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Open all day, with live music, dance, and more. The South Bank Centre is a unique place where you can enjoy the best of British and international music, dance, and drama. The Centre is a unique place where you can enjoy the best of British and international music, dance, and drama.

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NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC FOR YOUTH

18 July 10.00 am - 12.00 pm
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20 July 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

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NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC FOR YOUTH

18 July 10.00 am - 12.00 pm
19 July 10.00 am - 12.00 pm
20 July 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

PERCELL ROOM

MUSIC OF THE ROYAL COURTS

18 July 10.00 am - 12.00 pm
19 July 10.00 am - 12.00 pm
20 July 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

WIGMORE HALL

July 6 - Sept 13

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RAYMOND GUBBAY presents at the BARBICAN

WEDNESDAY NEXT 22 JULY at 7.45 p.m.
THERE'LL ALWAYS BE AN ENGLAND
Songs and music of the Forbues
See Barben press for details

THURSDAY NEXT 23 JULY at 7.45 p.m.
TCHAIKOVSKY EVENING
March Slave, Swan Lake Suite, Piano Concerto No. 1, The Nutcracker Suite, 1812 Overture with cannon and mortar effects
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
Conductor: FRANK CAHILL
MALCOLM BIRNBAUM, BAND OF THE WOLFE HUBARDS
(5.50, 6.50, 7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.50, 11.50, 12.50)

THURSDAY 30 JULY at 7.45 p.m.
THE QUEEN OF SHEBA
Handel: ARRIVAL OF THE QUEEN OF SHEBA
Mozart: PIANO CONCERTO No. 21, K.467
Vivaldi: THE FOUR SEASONS
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF LONDON
Conductor: PHILIP SUMMS
JOHN BRADSHAW violin, TYRON SEWELL piano
(5.50, 6.50, 7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.50, 11.50, 12.50)

FRIDAY 31 JULY at 7.45 p.m.
GLORIA RUSSELL AND LUDMILLA OVERTURE
Shostakovich: PIANO CONCERTO No. 2
Dvorak: SYMPHONY No. 9 (NEW WORLD)
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: MICHAEL REED
JOANNA MACGREGOR piano
(5.50, 6.50, 7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.50, 11.50, 12.50)

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST at 8 p.m.
MELODIES OF (FINGERS) CAYE
Schubert: SYMPHONY No. 9 (UNFINISHED)
Brahms: SYMPHONY No. 4 (PASTORAL)
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: JAMES JUDY
LELAND CHAN violin
(5.50, 6.50, 7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.50, 11.50, 12.50)

TUESDAY 11 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.
SPANISH FIESTA
Featuring CARLOS BONELL guitar
with his ensemble and special guests
dancers BEATRIZ GARRANO and LIA
and songs by ANTONIO SEVILLA
The music, songs and dances of the Spanish Fiesta
The Three Corners of the World (Spain, Portugal, and the Mediterranean)
The music, songs and dances of the Spanish Fiesta
The Three Corners of the World (Spain, Portugal, and the Mediterranean)

NEW SADDLER'S WELLS OPERA
THE GLORY OF VIENNA
ORCHESTRA OF SADDLER'S WELLS
MARILYN LILL SMITH, VIVIAN TIERNEY
JOHN BRADSHAW violin, TYRON SEWELL piano
WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.
The Magic of Vienna with excerpts in full costume from
The Magic of Vienna with excerpts in full costume from
The Magic of Vienna with excerpts in full costume from
The Magic of Vienna with excerpts in full costume from

FRIDAY 14 & SAT 15 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.
MUSIC AND DANCE FROM THE BALLET
Robert Bortolotti: Invitation To The Dance (La Sylphide & La Bayadere)
Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake Suite, Piano Concerto No. 1, The Nutcracker Suite
Dvorak: SYMPHONY No. 9 (NEW WORLD)
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: MICHAEL REED
JOANNA MACGREGOR piano
(5.50, 6.50, 7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.50, 11.50, 12.50)

SUNDAY 16 JULY at 2.30 p.m.
VERDI: REQUIEM
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: PETER TIBBIS
TERESA CAMILLI soprano, SEARON MANNING mezzo-soprano
NICHOLAS DAVENPORT tenor, JAMES BUTLER bass
Members of the Royal Choral Society, London
WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST at 7.45 p.m.
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VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents at the BARBICAN

SUNDAY 16th AUGUST at 7.30
TCHAIKOVSKY
Introduced & conducted by ANTONY HOPKINS
NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
BAND OF THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS
Soloist: ANDREW HAIGH
Waltz from "Sleeping Beauty", Suite from "Swan Lake", Piano Concerto No. 1, Nutcracker Suite
OVERTURE "1812" (WITH CANNON & MORTAR EFFECTS)
(5.50, 6.50, 7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.50, 11.50, 12.50)
at the LONDON PALLADIUM

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents in music, with
BARRY CLAYMAN & TONY MACARTUR
MON 24th to SAT 29th AUGUST at 7.30
Sat Mat 2.30
RUDOLF NUREYEV
with the
BALLET THEATRE FRANCAIS
Homage to Diaghilev:
LAPRES MIDI D'UN FAUNE
SPECTACLE ROSE
LES BICHES
PETROUCHKA
Tickets: 5.50, 6.50, 7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.50, 11.50, 12.50
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Kiosk: 741 9999 Fax: 240 7200 Open All Hours 7.30-11.00pm

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RUDOLF NUREY

July 18-24, 1987

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

A COOK FOR EVERY SEASON

Next week
Frances Bissell
becomes *The
Times Cook*.
Robin Young
assesses her
contribution to
the new mood
in British
cuisine



Frances Bissell is more like the average housewife than any other cookery writer in Britain. For a start, she does not like her kitchen. It is she says, with jovial distaste, a cowboy developer's job which came with the flat, and so thoroughly mediocre that when publishers came to photograph her they are astonished at its modesty.

Mrs Bissell is, it must be added, quite unlike the average housewife, too. That is because she is a perfectionist, a cook of originality and flair, and gifted with perfect taste. It is not the average housewife's honest claim that she has eaten anything really out of season only once (strawberries from Mexico) and then not enjoyed it. Neither does the average housewife keep diaries which are all about cooking and entertaining; nor read cookbooks like novels; nor take holidays which are planned entirely around the restaurants and vineyards to be visited and dishes researched; nor positively welcome the opportunity to cook with friends.

So from her impractical galley kitchen in a top-floor flat in Hampstead, where a huge and largely unused double-oven robs her of much needed storage and work space, Frances Bissell has won herself the reputation of being the best private cook in Britain. Invitations to her table are the hottest ticket in town, because the dining room is so small that she and her American wine-enthusiast husband, Tom, can entertain only one other couple at a time.

Now the private cook is definitively going public. Next week she dons her toque and whites and appears as *The Times Cook*, starting a weekly column which could have a profound and lasting influence on the way people in this country eat. Frances Bissell, people who take an interest in food are convinced, is the best news since the public went off sliced bread.

She is a true amateur of cooking, an enthusiast for food, a woman who cooks not to impress but to

eat. Already, with two books and a number of articles published, she is compared with the two women (significantly, both are similarly self-taught cooks) who have had the greatest influence on British cookery since the Second World War: Elizabeth David and Jane Grigson.

It is the latter who, along with Paul Levy of *The Observer* and catering consultant Victor Ceserani, can claim to have discovered Frances Bissell. They were the judges for the 1983 *Observer Mouton Cadet* menu competition. Scanning the entries, they quickly recognized that Mrs Bissell was a likely winner. In the cook-off she turned out to be a star. Jane Grigson says: "Her dishes were simple, elegant with original touches. She cooked with good-humoured confidence. Her food tasted even better than we

had expected". Oddly enough, the year before Mrs Bissell had been a finalist but not the eventual winner. "The judges must have had indigestion", Paul Levy harrumphs.

The victory launched Frances Bissell on a new career that was, she insists, totally unexpected. Indeed, it is Levy's boast that every one of his Mouton Cadet competition winners has gone on to make a career (and some of the runners-up as well). But none, he insists, has ever been as good as Frances.

Over the victory luncheon at Chateau Mouton-Rothschild, Mrs Bissell let fall that for 10 years she had kept diaries of all the meals she had cooked, using a French housewife's agenda with a page for every day in which to note prices, notes about the cookery, and observations on the wines which accompanied the food.

Mrs Bissell still keeps her food books. The reaction of friends to them, she says, tells her a lot about them. Those who are as passionately interested in food as she is think it wonderful, and worry why they had not thought of it themselves. Others think it a strange and time-wasting preoccupation. A doctor was concerned that her obsession with food, as revealed in the diaries, could be symptomatic of something serious.

Mrs Bissell does not see it as an obsession. "Food is a pleasure to be shared. It is an expression of yourself. It takes time, energy, imagination and money, but then so do most serious hobbies. For me it was the one area in which I could be creative."

Jane Grigson's reaction, in any case, was immediate. Frances Bissell should write a book, and

she hauled the competition winner off to Chateau & Windus forthwith. "I had never thought of it before," Frances Bissell says. "I did not think anybody else would be interested."

Frances is a cheerful, giggly and utterly unpretentious person, for whom cooking is second nature. Born in Yorkshire, she moved about a good deal as a child. Two years were spent in South Africa, where her father was a sales representative. Both her parents were good cooks. Her father always shared in the cooking, and could bake his own bread.

Her first-form domestic science class "taught" the young Frances how to make vegetable soup (a few vegetables chopped into identically sized dice and boiled in a very large pan of water until soft). She already knew better. "I came from a family who take soup very seriously." She gave up domestic science and switched to needlework.

After leaving school, at the age of 19, she went to Nigeria by Voluntary Service Overseas to teach English and French. "We ate a very unbalanced diet. It was plantains with yams and then yams with plantains."

Studying modern languages at Leeds University brought her a very French year at the Ecole Normale d'Instituteurs in Albi, deep in the *cassoulet* country, where the chef earned more than the principal; and while he would not talk to her about cooking or give her any recipes, he would allow her to watch. "It was there

that I first realized that I had a really good memory for flavours and tastes, and that I could build up a bank of information about how textures and flavours were brought into a dish."

All the early influences on her cooking were French — Albi, Elizabeth David's descriptions of French country and provincial cookery, and Jane Grigson's accounts of going to market in France. In Germany, where she studied for three months, she took a job as a charwoman to pay her way and, it being 1968, joined student demonstrations.

After leaving Leeds ("with a degree of sorts — a third, I think") she joined the British Council, for whom she has worked in various capacities ever since. For the most part, her professional career has been well removed from her culinary hobby, though a spell as regional officer for southern Europe did enable her to broaden her eating experience a little with trips to Spain, Portugal, Italy, Yugoslavia, Turkey and Greece.

"It was also fascinating, when we were in a mixed commission of cultural officials, to talk with, say, members of the Turkish delegation, for whom food was a very important part of their culture, while it hardly featured in ours."

Frances Bissell, Jane Grigson says, "exemplifies the way that our new enthusiasm for food could take us in Britain. Since Elizabeth David published *Mediterranean Cooking* in 1950, we have opened our kitchens — not always wisely — to many new influences. Frances Bissell shows how they can be quietly absorbed into a new compatibility."

Her notion of new British cooking does not exclude foreign

influences. One recent book, by Victor Gordon, banned foreign ingredients from its recipes. "I could never do that," Mrs Bissell says, "when all these lovely things are here to be used. I can understand that puritans might object to the way I cook, but I just can't help trying out things that I think might work." (At about this point in our interview, Prue Leith rang to ask how to get her salmon won-tun, a Bissell creation, to stick together. Just water round the edges and press firmly, Frances said. And could it be, she suggested, that Leith's won-tun

cases were made with rice flour, not wheat?)

The new British cooking, she says, means that people are no longer simply imitating what people do elsewhere. It is like the English language — open to all sorts of influences, adopting and assimilating contributions from all over the world, but still English.

Mrs Bissell is a great believer in seasonality. She even changes her perfume with the season — Penhaligon's bluebell scent in spring, Diorissimo in summer, Joy or Calèche in autumn and winter. But there is no mystique about it, simply the good practical ground that she prefers things fresh and full of flavour. With improved systems of transport and modern methods of horticulture, she has the evidence in her diaries that seasons are steadily extending.

She does not have a freezer, or a microwave, or come to that, a television set. She does most of her cooking on an ordinary gas hob and an electric steamer, and dreams of replacing her double-oven legacy with a small convection oven, "which is all I need." If she has a weakness, she says, it is that she does not like caraway seeds. An indulgence: white chocolate.

She acknowledges her debt to a string of previous cookery writers. Elizabeth David, Jane Grigson, Claudia Roden, Marcella Hazan, Anton Mosimann are prominent among contemporaries. Among the historical figures, she gives Eliza Acton pride of place over the plagiarist Hannah Glasse or the workaholic Mrs Beeton. Her favourite domestic economist is the later Victorian Mrs A. B. Marshall (strong on ice creams), and she also loves the scientifically succinct Edouard de Pomiane and Hermann Senn.

But she has never cooked by following other people's recipes ("except with cakes, where the chemical balance has to be precise, so you do have to know what quantities to use"), and she does not want anyone following her recipes slavishly, either. When ingredients may be hard to find for shoppers who do not have the Finchley Road Waitrose to fall back on, she tries to suggest alternatives. Using watercress instead of sorrel does not produce the same dish, but it can be just as delicious. Best of all, she would like people to make their own adaptations, and innovations.

If Frances Bissell does herald a new age of British cookery, it will be the era in which British cooks, well supplied with fine fresh produce from small producers, begin to exercise their culinary imagination to the full.

INDEX

A passage through India
with Elizabeth Jane
Howard — page 14

Arts Diary	19	Film	20
Bridge	18	Gardening	15
Cheese	19	Out and About	15
Concerts	20	Reviews	19
Dance	18	Theatre	17
Drinks	17	Travel	14
Eating Out	17	TV & Radio	20

FATHERS AND SONS

premiere of a new play by Brian Friel
after the novel by Ivan Turgenev

"THANKS FOR THE STARS, THE PLAY AND
THE ONE THEATRE THAT COULD STAGE IT"

"A delicately written, beautifully acted play
with a cluster of fine performances... Robert
Glenister, Richard Pasco, Joyce Grant, Alec
McCowen, Robin Bailey 'superb' *Gardian*

"TOUR DE FORCE
with Turgenev"
Sunday Express

"IMPECCABLE
performances"
S. Telegraph



Lyttelton: MONDAY at 7.45, TUESDAY at 2.15 (low
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FRESH SUMMERTIME DISHES

Until July 24 Frances Bissell is cooking summer food for breakfast, lunch and dinner in the Coffee House of the London Hotel International, 1 Hamilton Place, Hyde Park Corner, London W1 (01-409 3131). Here are some of the ideas she has introduced on menus which are devised daily to take advantage of the best of what is available from the markets:

FOR BREAKFAST

- Light and puffy giant croissants filled with scrambled eggs and tarragon, or smoked salmon and cream cheese.
- A very mild kedgeree with smoked haddock, salmon, and smoked salmon, chopped up eggs and "hardly any" curry.
- Tomato ice with vodka — a sort of frozen Bloody Mary morning

- Bacon and egg pie — a very homely dish in which the pastry crust is filled with bacon, eggs and chunks of sausage and topped with a lid so that the whole breakfast is in a single container — "the sort of thing we took on picnics when I was a child."

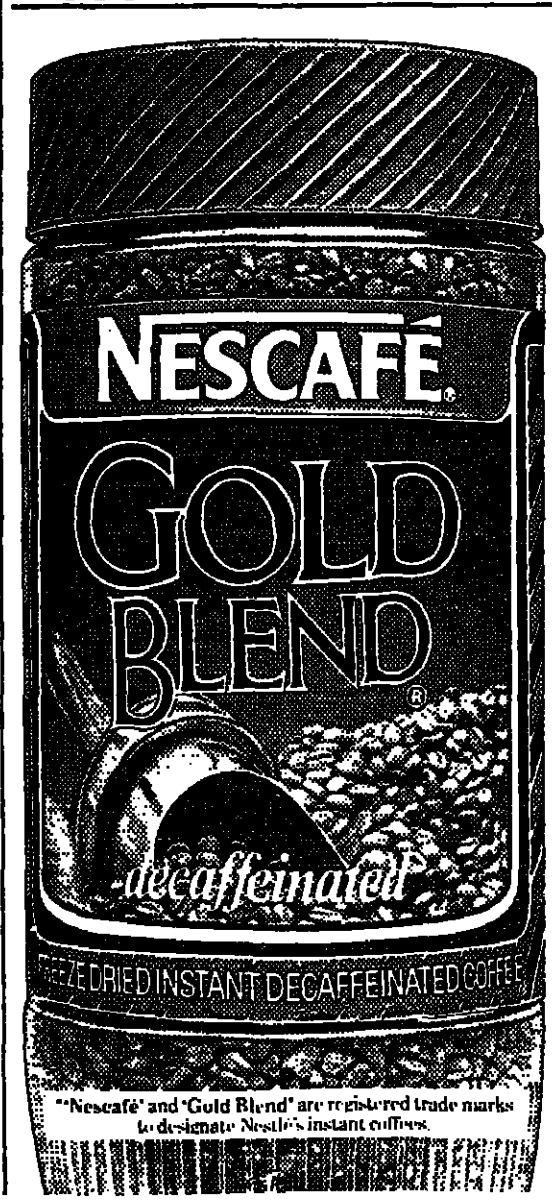
FOR LUNCH AND DINNER

- Carrot and peach soup — "It's based on my fennel and apple soup. You choose vegetable and fruit of complementary colours and flavours. The others I am working on are tomato and redcurrant, and melon and cucumber. You can serve them hot or cold."
- Salmon and watercress terrine — chunks of salmon through a pale blend of watercress and cream, with minutely diced red peppers to add points of colour.
- Raw salmon tri-file marinated

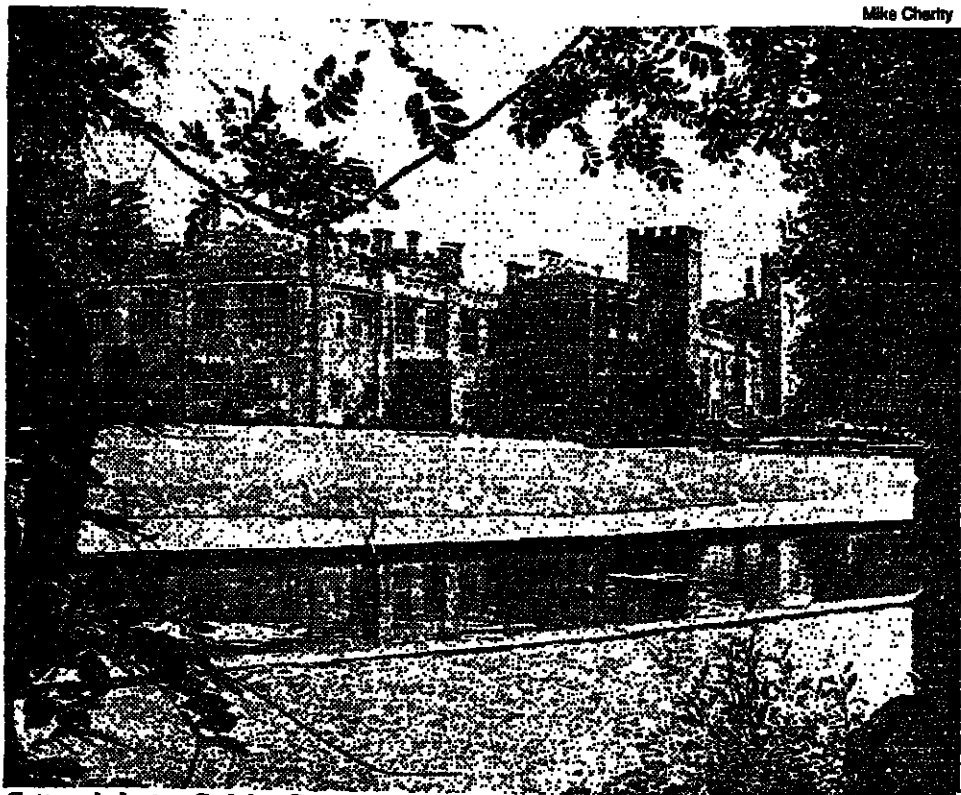
in olive oil with thinly sliced onion and capers — "I prefer it to gravadax because you keep more of the flavour of the salmon. It's quite different from ceviche, in which the acid completely changes the nature of the flesh so that it seems to me you might as well have cooked it."

- Monkfish cassoulet, made to the classic recipe with white beans, thyme, garlic and onions but substituting fish for meat — "I think monkfish has the right firmness and body for it, and I may use some tomato concassé, and if I can get it little bits of salt cod to use instead of bacon."
- Chicken in lemon gin and tarragon sauce — "I steep the zest of lemons in gin for two or three weeks to produce a fragrant, pale yellow spirit that is good for spicing up the interest in chicken."

Only one
decaffeinated
coffee
has the taste of
Nescafé Gold Blend.*



WEEKEND BREAK



Cottage industry: Sudeley Castle woos the tourists to its holiday homes set in the grounds

The art of survival

Those who bemoan the descent of the stately home business into gimmickry can find a healthy antidote to amusement parks and tacky souvenirs by making for the Cotswolds and Sudeley Castle.

Sudeley has had to become part of the tourist trade to pay the bills, and has met this necessity with good grace and the minimum concession to commercialism.

Take the craft workshops, which opened this year. When space in the old stable block became vacant, Sudeley's owners invited in craftspeople from the adjoining village of Winchcombe. The seven workshops are home to makers of stained glass and marbled paper to leather workers and wood turners. Visitors can watch the experts at work, chew the cud with them and buy their products. Traditional skills are being kept alive, and there is a bit of money in it as well.

Still on the theme of picking up the past and working it into the present, Sudeley's 19th-century joinery is being pressed into service to perpetuate another craft — hand-painted furniture.

The medieval sport of falconry has also been revived at Sudeley and a young falconer in residence, Gary Cope, puts on flying displays.

Katherine Parr would probably have approved. She is Sudeley's most famous resident, the sixth and last wife of Henry VIII, and she is buried in the chapel. Tudor royals seemed to like Sudeley. Lady Jane Grey, the nine-day queen, was a visitor, as, three times during her reign, was Elizabeth I.

But in the 17th century, to quote Marie Lloyd's song, Sudeley was one of the ruins that Cromwell knocked about a bit. Sudeley's punishment for taking the wrong side in the English Civil War was that

Peter Waymark discovers how a crumbling old English castle became a craft and holiday centre



Artist Kate Morgan at work in one of the castle craft workshops

much of the splendid castle created in the 1440s was demolished. The buildings that did survive were left to rot.

It was a sturdy Victorian family, the Dents, who put Sudeley back on its feet. They engaged an eminent architect, Sir Gilbert Scott, to work on the structure and they filled the house with treasures. These include paintings by Rubens, Hogarth, Constable and Turner, not bad for a small private gallery.

The key figure was an MP's daughter, Emma Brocklehurst, who married into the family and took on Sudeley as her life's work. She saw the restoration through and

amassed a formidable collection of furniture and works of art. Her autograph collection runs from Henry VIII to 19th-century notables like Tennyson and Abraham Lincoln.

The Dent-Brocklehurst family still owns Sudeley. In the 1970s, BBC television used the castle as a location for its *Trollope* serial. *The Pallisers*, and a couple of films have been shot there. But country houses cannot live by television alone and Sudeley was gradually turned over to visitors.

A recent initiative is holiday cottages. Some are conversions of the estate's Victorian outbuildings. You stay in the forge or the paper mill or the engine house, enjoying a combination of Cotswold style, central heating, fitted kitchens and colour TV.

Other cottages have been purpose built, but still in honey-coloured Cotswold stone. Together, in a quiet cul-de-sac, the old and the new form a self-contained village, enclosed by trees and flanked on one side by the river Isbourne. Bread, milk and a tea tray greet you on arrival.

As a footnote, last year a PG Wodehouse enthusiast, Norman Murphy, published a book, *In Search of Blandings*. In it he suggested that Sudeley may have been the inspiration for Blandings Castle. The result, in 1987, is a series of "Blandings Weekends". Perhaps Sudeley has got itself a gimmick after all.

TRAVEL NOTES

Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, near Cheltenham, Gloucestershire (GL24 6DZ). The castle is open daily until October, noon-5pm; grounds 11am-5.30pm. Weekly rental for the holiday cottages is from £95 to £380, depending on size of accommodation and time of year.

Nigel Andrew has a barrel of fun at the Bass Museum in Burton upon Trent where you can try the brew

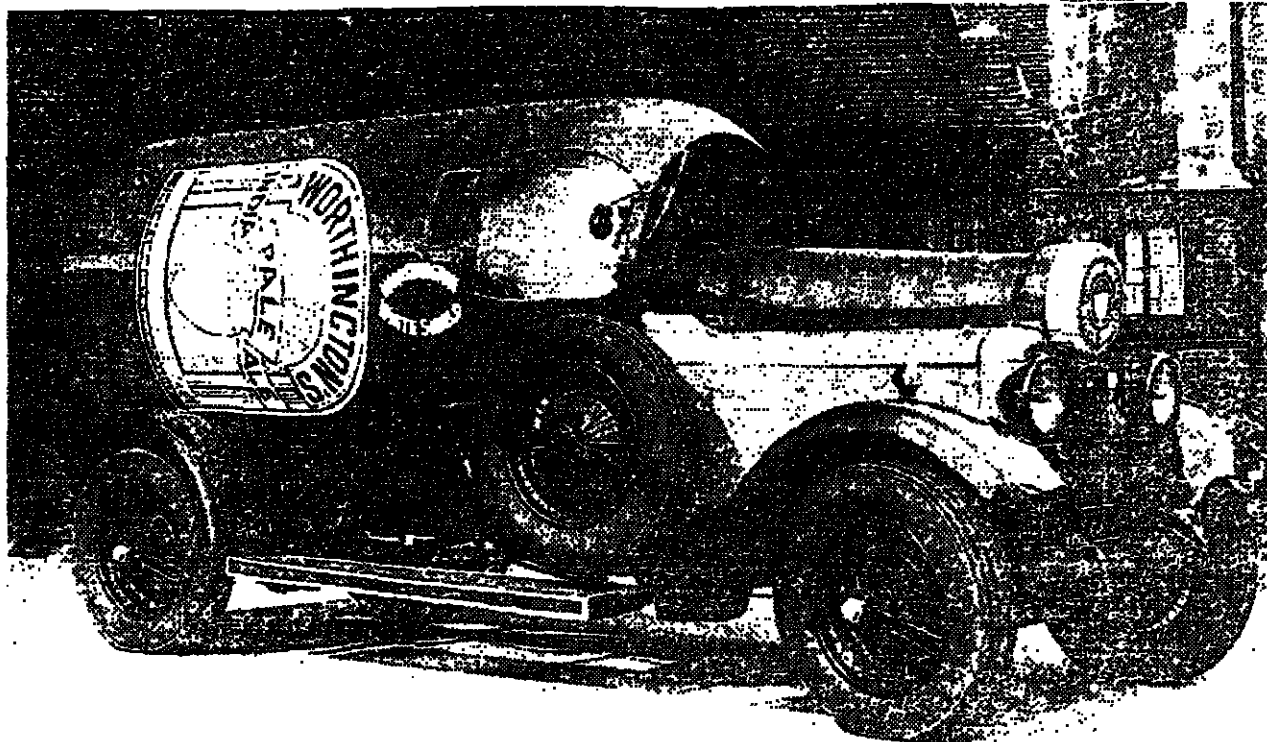
Beer is a drink with a history as long as civilization itself. For an agreeable crash course in the subject, the place to visit is the Bass Museum in Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire.

They've been brewing in Burton since medieval times. The gyspum in the water makes for particularly good beer and by the end of the 18th century, Burton was becoming famous for it.

William Bass, who set up in business with a £500 lottery win, was in at the beginning. Under his son and subsequent generations, the Bass empire grew to enormous size. Its Red Triangle and Red Diamond were the first registered trademarks. Bass made sure of this by sending an old Irish employee down to London to spend the night on the Register Office steps.

The museum, which tells the story of Bass and brewing, is housed in former engineering workshops. But its style is bang up-to-date. There are video presentations, elaborate mock-ups with plausible moustachioed dummies, and a well thought-out and informative arrangement throughout. The guides, steeped in brewery lore, are exceptionally friendly.

Upstairs is a remarkable working model of central Burton as it was on the morning of October 10, 1921. This huge exhibit is accurate down to the smallest detail — a fire being



Vintage vehicle: a rare survivor of five bottle-shaped cars made in the 1920s by Daimler for brewers at a cost of £1,300 each

attended by the Bass Fire Brigade, housewives hanging out their washing, children at play in the schoolyards, even a cow taking a walk in the High Street. Through all this frozen bustle run 12 trains and a tram, all working to a timetable.

Downstairs is the Glass and Barrel Bar, a faithful recreation of an Edwardian taproom, complete with busy barmaid pulling a pint, and a little girl holding up a jug. There are spittoons on the floor, a polyphon — a kind of proto-jukebox — and all the brassy abundance of the time. Several pub games are there for the playing, and when I visited, the rattle of skittles competed with the jangling of the polyphon.



Glass and Barrel Bar: a faithful recreation of an Edwardian pub

Outside, vintage vehicles are parked, the most striking being the famous bottle-shaped car. Only five of these were made — at a cost of £1,300 each in 1920s money!

This one's a Worthington "bottle", but that brewery became part of the Bass empire in 1927.

One shed houses a massive, gleaming Hovey steam engine, and next door is the model brewery, used for limited-edition ales. In the stables you should find some at least of the Bass shire horses — Captain, Imperial, Majestic and Wellington — magnificent beasts, snorting quietly at the visitors.

Gentlemen may use the ornate Edwardian convenience next to the reconstructed railway a-deck with its "saddle-back" loco, fancy directors' coach and diesel shunting engine — remnants of the largest private railway in Europe. Bass bitter

from the pump is to be had in the tap room, and good Midlands lunches are served in the restaurant.

As for Burton itself, all is not grimy red-brick by any means. There are some superb Victorian buildings — the grand town hall and the cathedral-sized St Paul's church, and, tucked away in Hunter Street, is Bodley's brilliant St Chad's. Down by the river, right in the centre of town, is a marvellous surprise — a great peaceful expanse of water-meadows.

TRAVEL NOTES

The Bass Museum, Horninglow Street, Burton upon Trent, is open daily, 10.30am-4.30pm. Adult £1.20, child or OAP 50p. Tel: 0283 45301.

OUTINGS

INTERNATIONAL AIR TATTOO: The world's largest military air display with a seven-hour flying programme each day. RAF Fairford, Cirencester, Glos. (0285-712511). Today, tomorrow, 9am to 8pm. Adult £7, child £2.

BRITISH MODEL SOLDIERS SOCIETY SPECTACULAR: Huge collection of military miniatures and traditional soldiers on display. Demonstrations of modelling techniques by members of the British Model Soldiers Society. Victory Services Club, 83-79 Seymour Street, London W2, 11am to 4pm. Adult £1, accompanied child 50p.

FESTIVAL OF STREET ENTERTAINERS: 200 acts from Britain and abroad converge on Covent Garden this weekend. Covent Garden Piazza, London WC2. Today, tomorrow, Free.

TILBURY FORT SUMMER 1687: A re-enactment in period costume of life as it might have been 300 years ago. Tilbury Fort, Tilbury Juxta

Clare, Essex (03752 78489). Today, tomorrow, 10 am to 6pm. Adult £1.50p, child 50p.

PORTLAND NAVY DAYS AND AIR DISPLAY: Visitors may explore the Naval warships. HM Naval Base, Portland, Dorset. Today, tomorrow, 12 noon to 6.30pm. Adult £1.50p, child 50p.

FISH MARKET OPEN DAY: Fish lovers visiting Brixham this weekend can see and taste some of the best of British fish in displays, on stalls and in cookery demonstrations. New Fish Market, Brixham, Devon. Today from 1pm. Adult 60p, child 40p.

A WILTSHIRE COUNTY SHOW: Real family day out in aid of the Children's Society with clay pigeon shooting, sheep dog trials, showjumping, archery and falconry. Hot air balloons and children's fair. Sney Park, near Chippenham, Wilt. Today 10am to 5pm. Adult £1, child 60p. Car park free.

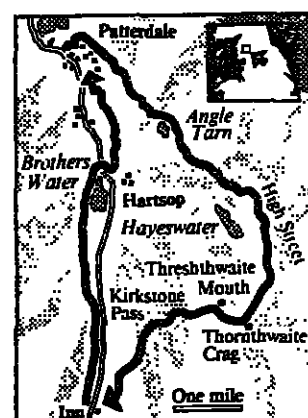
Judy Froshaug

Why I'll take the high street

The Kirkstone Pass road between Windermere and Ullswater seems to form a barrier to many walkers. More than once I have walked on the High Street fells, meeting few others, while queues build up to see popular sights farther west.

But I'd gladly part with a ticket for Striding Edge in exchange for another turn at emerging from a Patterdale bog, or generating the heat of the climb on a frosty March morning.

From Patterdale, take the road across the beck and round behind the houses. Wainwrights will know when the path branches, to take the lower one without the seat. When you turn your back



on Patterdale, your way forward is marked by cairns and you cannot miss the route from here on.

Angle Tarn is always a surprise, a plate of pewter, copper, lead or lambwood depending on the weather. To the west, you have a privileged view of what everyone else is swarming over. On top, a

smooth expanse lies between crags tumbling down to Haweswater and Haywater, and we take the footpaths of the Romans to the trig point.

There is no trouble in reaching Thornthwaite Crag with its maze-cairn: on the other hand, the drop and climb through Threshwaite Mouth is like negotiating the side of a house. An easy path leads unerringly to the Kirkstone Pass Inn, which is noisy, busy... and the only place for miles around.

If you do have to walk back to Patterdale, a track leads off the busy road after three-quarters of a mile; this may be used as far as Brothers Water, where the escape route takes the opposite side of the valley.

Map 90, or the NE and SE Lakes Outdoor Leisure maps, and/or Wainwright's *Far Eastern Fells*.

Iain Liddell

IN THE GARDEN

Dying craft of growing your own

Walled kitchen gardens are deeply evocative places, yet all but a handful are now turned to other uses.

As one who derives as much pleasure from her fruit and vegetables as from flowers, I was thrilled to hear there was a working garden at Cottesbrooke in Northamptonshire which had been in continuous cultivation for more than four centuries.

The present head gardener, Doug Brereton, has been a gardener since he left school and now, in his early fifties, has a unique combination of experience and skill in a very special kind of horticulture that is dying out.

Four years, during which he provided a continuous range of fruit and vegetables for his

Francesca Greenoak talks to the expert head gardener at a country house about the secrets of growing first-class fruit and vegetables

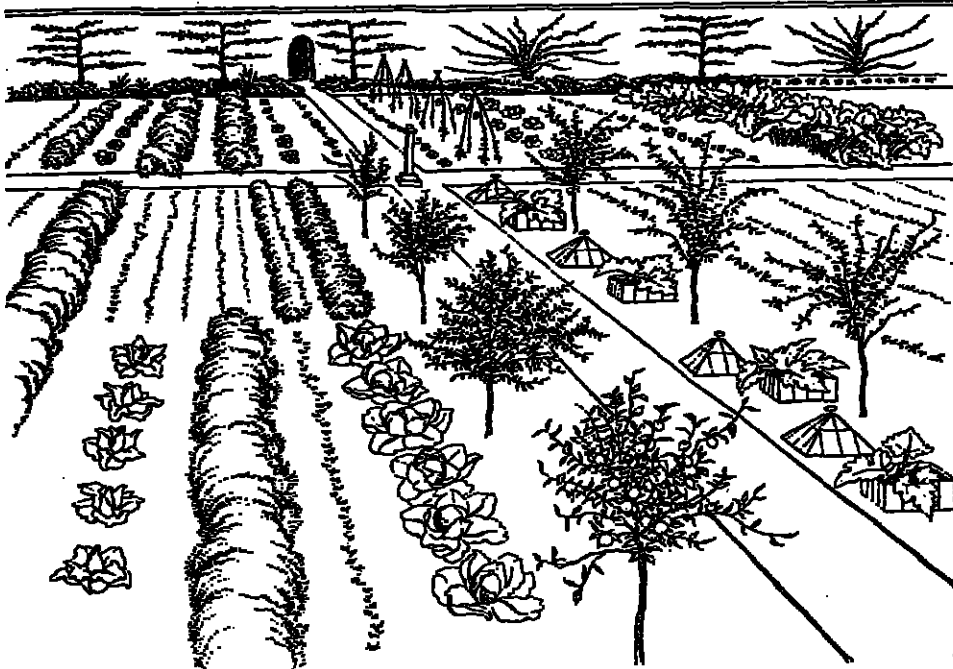
energetic and discriminating employer at the Hall, have come to a sad end with the death of her ladyship. He has since lost five of his six staff and the future of this great kitchen garden is now extremely uncertain.

Already part of the garden is overgrown, but with the help of his assistant, Ken, he is keeping the rest as orderly as possible. He showed me greenhouses full of orchids, scented geraniums, many other unusual decorative pot plants. He has hybridized himself, and fine figs, peaches and melons.

As I followed him between the vegetable and fruit beds, through the vinery and the other glasshouses, he explained his ideas and methods, with something interesting to observe on almost every subject we discussed.

In the large onion beds, those raised from seed were as forward as those grown from sets — "but seed onions always have better roots". In about six weeks they will be lifted and laid out to ripen, a most important process because they will not store well or last the winter unless properly ripe.

Doug tries a number of varieties of fruit and vegetables to obtain continuity and quality. He picked out the cabbage Spring Hero for



praise: "very productive — a beautiful, white, hard cabbage, sweet tasting, and it makes wonderful coleslaw." Out of the rhubarbs, he has selected Champagne and Glaskins Perpetual, which he has raised from seed, and he grows half a dozen or so different strawberries, raspberries, currants and gooseberries to extend the season for fresh fruit.

He takes calculated risks with late crops. I am myself often tardy in sowing, but I would not previously have dared to try French beans as late as August. I have, however, been converted from my double lines of runner beans to the wigwam arrangement that is better at resisting late summer gales. The knack is to set your circle of poles firmly upright into the soil to a depth of 18in or so, then to arch them in and secure them in the centre, keeping a tension

surely there is a place for his skills. Over the years, Doug has learned a number of well-tried "quick-cuts". He increases his primrose stocks, for example, by surrounding a seedling "mother" plant with several 3in pots filled with seed compost and leaves them in a frame. Peeping into a cold frame, I saw most of the pots had been colonized and many of the plants (*Primula florindae* and *Pividae*) were already well-grown.

Doug is a gifted teacher, who once taught horticulture to prison inmates, and can describe difficult techniques clearly and logically. He sees his kind of gardening as a craft derived from good teaching, skill and experience, and feels he should be passing it on to gardeners of the future.

The basic economics of the kitchen gardens of the great estates are against him, but

surely there is a place for his skills.

If gardens were listed as sites of special interest with statutory protection, Cottesbrooke would surely rate as a protected species. As it is, we have Cottesbrooke, An English Kitchen Garden by Susan Campbell, photographs by Hugh Palmer (Century, £15.95), a fitting tribute and memorial to a historic garden and the people who worked there.

● Transplant sprouting broccoli, leeks, cauliflower and kale as early-cropping beds become clear. ● Be conscientious about dead-heading sweet-peas and roses and you will get a longer crop: similarly, pick peas and beans as soon as they ripen. ● Continue to sow lettuce

GARDENS TO VISIT

P=Plants for sale

TODAY AND TOMORROW

Yorkshire: 12 gardens in Great Ouseburn, off the B6265, between York and Boroughbridge; fee of £1 admits to all the gardens, children free; 11am to 5pm.

Devon: Crosspark, Holstock Cross, Northlew, 8m NW of Okehampton; 2 acre plantsman's garden; interest all year, bog, rock gardens, heathery, herbaceous, many unusual plants; P: also open July 25, 26, 28 to 6pm.

Wiltshire: Hazlebury Manor, near Box, 5m SW of Chippenham, 3m NE of Bath, 3m N of Bradford on Avon; 8 acres, formal gardens, shrubs, herbaceous, rock garden, topiary; 2am to 6pm.

Dyfed: The Dingle, Crundale, take B4329 from Haverfordwest, turn right at Boot and Shoe, first right to Dingle Lane; 3 acres, plantsman's garden, rose garden, scree, herbaceous border, shrubs, water garden; peacocks; daily except Tuesdays, until October; 10am to 6pm.

TOMORROW Ayrshire: Auchincruive, Ayr; 3m off A758; grounds of West of Scotland Agricultural College; herbaceous and shrub borders, plant display glass-houses; P: 2am to 6pm.

Durham: Headlam Hall, 2m N of Gainford, 5m W of Darlington; 3 acre formal garden, roses, vegetables; 2 to 6pm.

Roy Hay

GARDEN NEWS

This recent long dry spell has provided a good opportunity to try out a gadget called the Aquameter, which can be fixed to an outdoor tap to regulate the amount of water that goes to a sprinkler or simple hose.

It adjusts automatically to variations in water pressure to give you any volume of water, from a mere 10 gallons to 420 gallons. You can therefore water at night, or go out without having to worry about switching off the tap.

I'm not disposed towards excessive gardening gadgetry, but this is a very convenient device that prevents wasting water.

For those who get in knots

WEEKEND TIPS

for autumn salads. ● Prune deutzia, philadelphus and weigela, cutting back wood that has just flowered to newly developing shoots, and removing dead or weak growth. ● Try sowing a final crop of sugar peas to harvest in October or November.

watering a long garden, I should also mention a new kind of knitted hose which is strong, flexible and doesn't seem to kink.

Hozelock Aquameter costs about £9.95. Hozelock Knitted Hose £9.95 for 15 metres, £18.95 for 30 metres.

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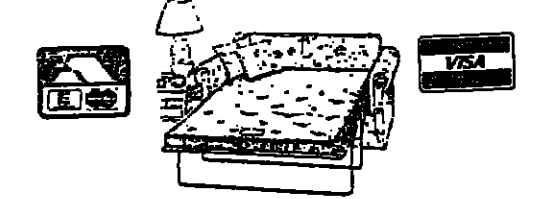
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DRINK

Royal bouquet for Beychevelle



Royal tour: the Duke and Duchess of York in Bordeaux. The Duke and Duchess of York's recent visit to Beychevelle for the Fête de la Fleur represents a considerable coup for the Achille-Fouad family.

True, other Bordeaux châteaux have all had their turn at hosting the Fête, that great Médoc feast marking the flowering of the vine, but the royal visit represented the first of the younger generation.

Try as hard as I might, I could not get Madame Martine Achille-Fouad to expand on her earlier description of Beychevelle. "It's a very fine and distinguished wine, just like the other St Julians."

It was clear from my tasting and visit to the impressive, cold, stone flagged below-ground cellars, rare in the Médoc, and those above, that Madame Achille-Fouad was being becomingly modest about her wine. For the fourth growth St Julien Château Beychevelle has, for decades, deservedly held both a second growth reputation in England and fetched the prices to match.

In recent years too the quality of Beychevelle's wine, especially the splendid '85 and superb '86, has shone at

competitive London tastings of the vintage. On both occasions I rated fourth growth Beychevelle alongside that of another St Julien Duroc-laucailon, one of the starries of all second growths.

In the cellar I was intrigued to taste and compare the last seven vintages of Beychevelle, a property whose blend is normally two thirds Cabernet Sauvignon to one third Merlot with a dash of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot usually in the mix too.

The glorious '86 came first with its effusive cinnamon-like scumplus a deep, solid, fruit-packed palate. Half a point behind was the '83, round, corey fruit of the '83 followed by the softer, more herbaceous and blackcurrant '85 and the perfumed, flowery '82.

Headings for the next rank was the later, heavier, but nevertheless elegant '81 followed by the truffled '80 and the soft, silky but awkward, like other vintages from this year, '84.

Tanners, 26 Wyle Cop. Shrewsbury stock a good range of these wines.

Jane MacQuitty

Tasting Turkey's delights

Turkish dishes rank with French and Chinese as the three great cuisines of the world, says guest cook Jill Norman

Turkey is now the fashionable country for summer holidays, yet knowledge of the place and its culture is remarkably sketchy, partly because the Hellenic view of the history of the eastern Mediterranean, which we are brought up on, considers Turkey to be alien.

If you ask the prospective tourist what he or she expects to eat in Turkey, the answer will probably be: "Something like Greek or Lebanese food." In fact Turkish food is the finest food in the Middle East. It is worth going to Turkey just to eat.

In my opinion, Turkish food ranks with French and Chinese as one of the three great cuisines of the world. The secret of Turkish cooking lies in using excellent fresh ingredients and the long, patient preparation of many dishes.

The early Turks, who came from central Asia, ate kebabs, böreks (savoury pastries) and pilavs (from Persia). When they settled in Anatolia they had access to the fruits and vegetables of the Mediterranean, to olive oil, to fish, and they evolved a complex and elaborate yet delicate style of cooking, combining the new ingredients with their original fare.

Turkish cooking reached its peak of sophistication in the Ottoman period, when dishes were further refined, and in the imperial kitchens hundreds of specialist cooks were employed for particular foods or dishes.

Social and religious occasions have always been celebrated with specific dishes; food is an important part of Turkish culture.

The growth of the Ottoman empire saw the spread of Turkish food from the Yemen to the gates of Vienna, and today, if you travel overland to Turkey, you become aware of the Turkish influence in the kitchen as soon as you reach the Balkans.

Whether or not you are off to Turkey this year, here are a few easy Turkish dishes to try. We start with a summer soup from southern and eastern Turkey, with the cooling taste of mint and a light spicing of paprika.

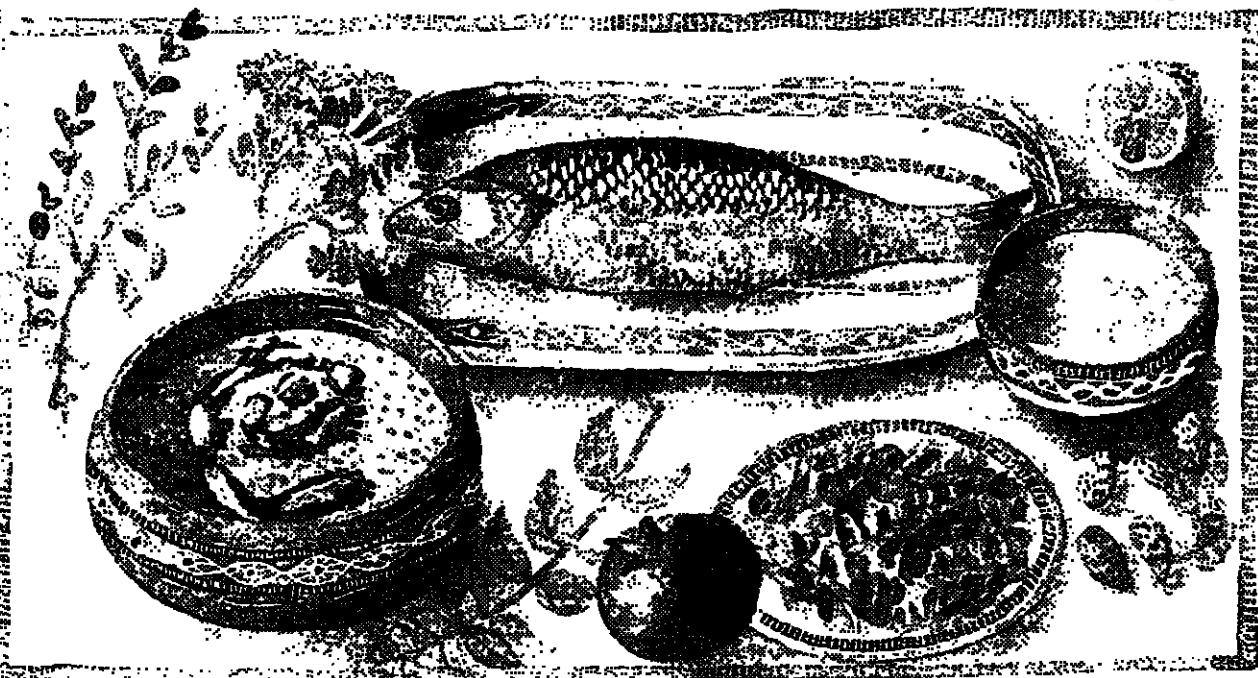
Yogurt soup
Serves 4
2 tablespoons rice
1 litre/1½ pints beef or chicken stock
salt

a handful of fresh mint leaves
250g/8oz thick yogurt
1 egg
1 tablespoon flour
30g/1oz butter
paprika

Wash the rice and cook it in the stock with a little salt for 15 to 20 minutes. Chop the mint leaves, not too finely, and add half to the soup. Beat the yogurt, egg and flour together and stir the mixture into the soup.

Keep the soup warm on very low heat — it mustn't boil — while you melt the butter and stir into it the remaining mint leaves and a teaspoon of paprika. Pour the seasoned butter into the soup — it will leave an attractive trail with green specks across the surface — and serve.

The long coastline of Turkey is bounded by four dif-



ferent seas: the Black Sea in the north connects through the Bosphorus with the Sea of Marmara in the north west; then passing through the Dardanelles one reaches the west coast which faces the Aegean, and the south coast borders the eastern Mediterranean.

Not surprisingly, the Turks have many excellent fish dishes; fresh anchovies, swordfish, mackerel and sea bass are all popular. I have used sea bass for this dish, but if you want a less expensive fish, grey mullet is a good choice.

Sea bass with almond tarator sauce
Serves 4

a sea bass weighing about 1kg/2lb after cleaning
4 tablespoons olive oil
juice of ½ lemon
salt
2 cloves garlic

fresh parsley
fresh thyme

Put the fish into an ovenproof dish that fits it well. Mix together the oil and lemon juice, crush the garlic with the salt, add it to the liquid and pour over the fish. Tuck in a few sprigs of the herbs and leave to marinate for 2-3 hours.

When you are ready to cook the fish, heat the oven to 200°C/400°F/gas mark 6. Turn the fish over in its marinade, cover the dish tightly with foil and bake for 30 minutes. Transfer the bass to a warm serving dish and serve the sauce separately.

Walnuts, pistachios and almonds are all important crops in Turkey and nuts are widely used in cooking. Any nuts can be used to make tarator sauce, but almonds give a particularly fine flavour to accompany the bass.

Almond tarator sauce
120g/4oz almonds
a thick slice of white bread with crusts removed
6 tablespoons olive oil
1 small clove garlic
salt
juice of ½ lemon

Blanch the almonds. Soak the bread in water and squeeze dry. Put both into the blender or food processor with the olive oil, the garlic crushed with a little salt and half a glass of water. Blend or process, adding a little more water if necessary, until you have a creamy but still thick sauce. Blend in the lemon juice and pour into a serving bowl.

A very simple dish that is popular throughout Turkey is green beans in olive oil. Don't use very thin French beans; the recipe works best with the larger beans, sometimes called bobby beans.

Green beans in olive oil
Serves 4
500g/1lb French beans
2 onions
2 large ripe tomatoes
6 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon sugar
salt

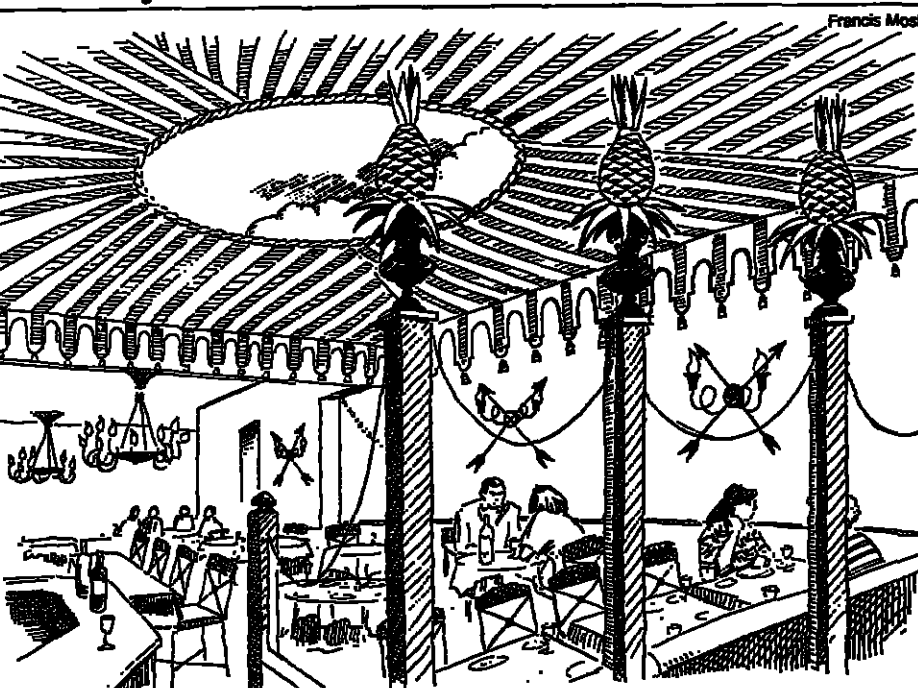
String the beans carefully and snap in two if they are very long. Slice the onions thinly; blanch the tomatoes for a minute, then remove the skins and chop the flesh.

Put the oil in a heavy pan with the vegetables, sugar and salt and pour over 150ml/¼ pint of water. Cover the pan and simmer gently for about 30 minutes until the beans are tender. If necessary, add a little more water during the cooking, but there should not be much liquid left in the pan at the end. Transfer the beans and their sauce to a dish and serve cool.

EATING OUT

Past glories and Gallic flavours

Jonathan Meades samples the French connection and the Italian job and some of the finest food outside France



waitress was on duty the night I went — is all right. The bill: £45 for two.

Despite its name, there is nothing in the least bit French about Gothique. However, Jeanes's, Danish moniker notwithstanding, is quintessentially French, couldn't be more so. Its chef, Luc Ferrand, trained with Girardet, who, although Swiss, enjoys the reputation in France of being the world's "greatest chef", whatever that means.

The lessons that Ferrand has learned at the master's stove are to keep it simple, to execute the straightforward with precision, not to be afraid to eschew adornment. The result is a kind of cooking that is diligent, impeccably bourgeois, uncontaminated by the experiments of the recent past. Indeed, it almost puts the clock back to the age that Elizabeth David evoked for ever in *French Provincial Cooking*.

I was reminded particularly of this unsurpassable primer when I ate Ferrand's wonderful poulet de Bresse. It is prepared for two people,

roasted whole in a high oven, presented at table with its little metal *appellation contrôlée* tag, carved on a wooden block kept just in a dish above a spirit burner and served with cloves of new garlic and a tiny reduction of its juices with white wine and cream.

This is the dish that thousands of Mrs David's readers must have expected to find in quiet, old fashioned, family hotels in St Amand and Argenton-sur-Creuse, the very heart of France. If they want to rerun the experience or have never found it — not all little hotels had a gifted hand in the kitchen — they should head for Greek Street, having first armed themselves with a comforting wad of folding stuff.

Cooking of this quality never came cheap, though if you stick to the set menu you'll pay less than £50 for two. But the chicken lives on the carte, which is likely to cost at least half as much again.

What else do you get for your loot? Well, cossetting and assured service by an entirely French staff, an opulently

pretty room with repro Louis XV chairs, Watteauesque prints, sweet, electric light fittings just like the ones they had in pre-revolutionary France. Back by the yard and a bulging basket of *cochonilles* — mountain hams, sausages — and so on.

These are most copiously served, along with smoked goose and gherkins, and were of special quality. Just as Bresse chicken reminds one that most chickens, with the exceptions of boiling fowl and a few corn-fed, free-range birds, are tasteless, so does *charcuterie* such as this emphasize the fact that we are normally served the third rate.

There are other treats to be had, such as a starter of *foie gras*, lightly fried, with smoked salmon and a hazelnut oil salad; well made sorbets; delicious canapés, including a pastry filled with anchovy cream; very bitter truffles and candied peel. A *gratin* of fruits with a sabayon sauce was less interesting than an earlier fruit, a pear poached in vinegar that was served with the *foie gras*.

The wines are marked, up

surprisingly modestly for a place of this standard. There are half a dozen or so regional *petits vins* at less than a tanner and a mighty list that culminates in a '45 Cheval Blanc for £300. I would advise against this half of that vintage had to be pasteurised. For a twentieth of the sum we drank a fine '82 Côte de Beaune from Auxey Durees.

Vasco and Piero's Pavilion was, along with its distinctive woodcut posters, one of the peripheral losses occasioned by the closing down of the Academy Cinema in Oxford Street. The restaurant, decorated in Festival of Britain Directoire by Angus McBean, had remained unchanged for 30 years. It has now reopened a hundred yards from its previous site, in Poland Street.

Although the décor has changed, it is still as whimsically original as ever. There is a lot of *trompe-l'oeil*, consummately executed, a tent effect ceiling, the original light fittings and glass screen with pineapples on top of it. The delightfully light neo-Regency chairs have been refurbished and the place looks good for another 30 years.

The well-prepared main dishes — calf's liver with sage, fine steak with green peppercorns — are not improved by having generous piles of quite respectable vegetables dumped all round them. Things like *vietto tonnato* are not bad and the welcome and the service are as good as they ever were — which is to say that they are unforgoingly friendly and efficient. The bill: £45 for two.

La Gothique: The Royal Victoria Patriotic Building, Fitzhugh Grove, off Trinity Road, SW18 (01-870 6567), Mon to Fri 11.30am-2.30pm, Mon to Sat 7-11pm. Closed Sun and Sat lunch.
Jeanes's: 6 Greek Street, W1 (01-437 20067 or 734 2334), Mon to Fri 12noon-2.30pm, Mon to Sat 6-11.30pm. Closed Sun and Sat lunch.
Vasco and Piero's Pavilion: 15 Poland Street, W1 (01-437 8774), Mon to Fri 12noon-3pm, Mon to Sat 6-11pm. Closed Sun and Sat lunch.



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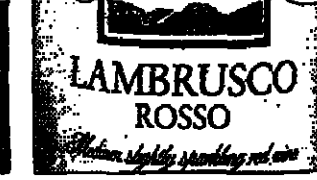
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THE ARTS

Acting the part

Ginger Rogers could act anything which she could understand, said her former studio boss, Pandro Berman, during the latest episode in BBC's *The RKO Story*. The problem, according to him, was getting her to understand things. Ms Rogers's powers of comprehension, however, should not be underestimated. You might not have thought that her sassy street wisdom would have given her the low-down on a virgin queen but, by all

TELEVISION

accounts, her screen test for the role of Elizabeth I in *Mary of Scotland* was sensational. Not only did she act the queen but also the actress acting the queen. The studio had refused permission for her to try for the part so she pretended to be an unknown hopeful and got herself unrecognizably togged up in the garb for a test.

Unfortunately, the studio thought the public would never understand Rogers's Elizabeth. Had she been awarded the role she would have played opposite Katharine Hepburn, and *The RKO Story* repeatedly posted clips of the two from past films and contemporary interviews. Perhaps surprisingly, Rogers was the more impressive in the films, a brilliant, witty, sensual performer. Hepburn, who did much of her best work for other studios, even occasionally gave some credibility to Dorothy Parker's cruel quip about her running the gamut of emotions from A to B.

The interviews, though, were another matter. Although she was frail and shaking, Hepburn's natural beauty and strength of personality was undimmed and unadorned. Rogers, however, spoke from behind a thick protection of paint, frills and peroxide. The great Dame looked as though she was trying to understand how to play an over-dressed French poodle.

Omnibus (BBC1) in its profile of Rod Hackney showed that the leading prophet of "community architecture" has aged well since the clips of him as a long-haired, clogged pioneer. But it was clear from the programme that, even if widely adopted, his admirable self-help philosophy — unkindly dubbed by one critic as "the evangelical wing of the home improvement industry" — could only resolve a tiny proportion of the country's housing problems. Is it beyond architects and governments to give us buildings which work, and please us, and are not built by ourselves?

Andrew Hislop

Daniel Massey tells Sheridan Morley why he is returning to musicals in *Follies* on Tuesday

Strike up the band

Of all the Stephen Sondheim musicals that have never been seen professionally staged in London — and there are still half a dozen, from *Anyone Can Whistle* across 20 years to *Sunday in the Park with George* — the most discussed and eagerly awaited has always been *Follies*. First given on Broadway in April 1971, with a cast headed by such veteran Hollywood and Broadway Babes as Yvonne De Carlo and Alexis Smith, it has been staged over here most notably in a courageous Manchester production two summers ago, but never before given the resources of a major West End management or cast.

At a time when British musicals still dominate Broadway, *Follies* comes to establish a new counter-crossing of the Atlantic: it will be followed later in the year by a Coliseum production of Sondheim's *Pacific Overtures* (also a London premiere), while his revision of *Candide* will be in Jonathan Miller's 1988 season at the Old Vic.

Those who loved *Follies* remained across the years a vociferous lobby, one so appalled by the limitations of the original cast recording that a couple of seasons ago they organized a starry concert with the New York Philharmonic in order that the score might be heard in its entirety. The huge success of that concert, on record and television here and in America, coupled with the determination of the impresario Cameron Mackintosh for *Follies* at long last to get a London hearing, led both the author of its book, James Goldman, and Sondheim to go back to work on what was always admitted were the problems of the show and, specifically, of its second half.

Mike Ockrent's production brings back to the musical stage an actor whom many seem surprised to find there at all. When, at a recent memorial to Alan Jay Lerner, the title song from his *Gigi* was definitively sung by Daniel Massey, it came as a sharp reminder that a player most recently associated with a television serial about Aids and, before that, long classical seasons at the National and RSC had in fact started out more than 20 years ago as a song and dance man.

Massey got his first breaks in West End revue and musicals like *Make Me an Offer*, before going on to *Gigi* and *She Loves Me* on Broadway and then Hollywood, where he played his godfather Noel Coward in a catastrophic film musical about Gertrude Lawrence.

Reckoning that to be the end of his musical life, Massey returned to the stage and two decades of major roles. So why has he returned to the musical?

"Partly I think because we now know how to do them over here, though they remain fiendishly difficult to do well. They're not operas or plays but a kind of balancing act, and if you fall then that's the end of that. I went back to singing lessons, found that my voice was still all right, and then after I'd sung at Alan's memorial they sent me the script of *Follies* and I just realized I had to do it."

Follies is still about a reunion, but the perspectives of the characters have all rather changed, and as for the numbers, when Sondheim is on form the way he is here there is really nobody to touch him. A first hand call in a theatre is still the most exciting sound I know."

The son of Raymond and brother of

Anna, Massey grew up in a highly theatrical if only faintly musical family. "Vivien Leigh told me that dancing with my father was one of the most exciting experiences of her life, and he did once play a song and dance man in *Idiot's Delight*, but I never really started out with the problem of being his son because he and my mother had long since divorced and he had gone to live in America. With Anna, too, I learnt very early on to develop a different path because although we got along all right, we are totally different people."

Privately Massey's life has not been altogether easy: an early divorce from Adrienne Corri was followed by a second marriage, to Penelope Wilton, which also ended in separation.

"I think I must be a late developer, and in the last two or three years since I left the RSC I have found it quite difficult professionally, because outside of Shakespeare and Ibsen you don't often find work which challenges you both intellectually and physically. A lot of *Follies* does that, but it's about the breaking up of relationships, and although there are aspects of my own life which I can use for that, it does get very painful."

"My working life seems to be in a state of transition just as my private life is also changing again. All that I know is I still have a very long way to go: the classical theatre may no longer turn out to be the magic kingdom if it loses proper funding, and yet to plan any other kind of career is really impossible. You just have to see what works out and go with that. All I can be sure about is that at 53, when some people have their lives levelled out and drifting down into the shade, mine isn't like that at all. There is still a great deal to be done."



In transit: Daniel Massey with "a great deal still to be done"

Dance of desperation

THEATRE IN LONDON

They Shoot Horses, Don't They? Mermaid

It happens that this is the second play on the dance marathons of the American Depression that I have seen in the past week. The first, June Havoc's *Marathon*, has just ended a four-month run in Niagara, the same length as Miss Havoc's own all-time dance record (3,600 hours).

Emerging from that show, a drab and pitiless re-enactment of a contest taken to the limits of exhaustion and watched by a stage audience who were there to relish the sight of people even more unfortunate

than themselves, you felt that you too had been made to stay the course.

In discussing his production of Ray Herman's play (*The Times*, July 15), Ron Daniels said that his intention was to enter June Havoc's world rather than that of the film version of *They Shoot Horses*. After which, it comes as a surprise to find the Mermaid auditorium glittering under a festive array of fairy light, and to see the contestants assembling on a spick-and-span dance floor decorated with monster dollar bills. Also, no sooner have the partners taken the floor than the scene gives way to a spilt murder inquiry.

Adapted from Horace McCoy's novel, the play has a story to tell. It is not a documentary. Even so, the essence of this event is that it goes on without interruption to the bitter end, and much has been sacrificed in stopping

the music to accommodate the combined flashbacks and interrogations.

My immediate impression was that the actuality of the event had been overlaid with antized fictions, and that a bunch of wretched kids crowding on to the floor is much in search of free foodstuffs of winning the contest. Had been supplanted by a group of calculatedly eye-catching individual cases: a boy with gambling debts, a pregnant girl, a criminal on the run.

As the production works out, though, all the characters acquire real substance during their 5-day ordeal on the floor, and their fates are finally determined by hard Depression logic rather than by melodramatic expectation.

Also, once the fumbling preliminaries are over, the production does develop a ghastly sardonic rhythm, beginning in a party atmosphere and gradually wearying the

hours mount up, and as elimination savagely speeded up with "grinds", "sprints" and "perbys" until they are shuffling around, hollow-eyed, deep in one another's arms.

The centre of the fable consists of a relationship between Bob (Paul Greenwood) and Gloria (Imelda Staunton): a typical Southern country boy and a Texas girl irreparably damaged by brutality and defeat. It is a collision between compulsory American optimism and immovable despair, to which he finally capitulates by granting her plea for a bit in the brain.

As a role for today's headbanger, it needs no underlining. On Ralph Koolha's stage with the harsh indoor glare giving way to the soft lights of nocturnal Malibu, is an image to remember.

Ivring Wardle

ROCK

Singular talent

Billy Joel
Wembley Arena

Regardless of whatever complex theorizing lay behind the austere design of the stage set, one could have been forgiven for thinking that Billy Joel had returned to London in reduced circumstances three years after the extravagance of his previous tour. But while his last album, *The Bridge*, barely deserved the British chart, and he has not had a decent hit single here since "An Innocent Man" in 1984, in America he continues to flourish, and this was, after all, part of a five-night residency at the capacious Arena.

It sounded cheap too, with a harsh quality to the fretless that was unpleasantly noticeable for instance, when Joel played his harmonica during "Piano Man", and employing a level of volume more suitable for a band like AC/DC, who indeed played out much louder at this same venue.

But then it is part of Joel's peculiar appeal that he has an embarrassment of talent at his disposal which he has never quite decided what to do with. One part of him would like to head his classical piano training in the service of heavy techno-flash rock; thus the long meandering format, awkward tempo changes and even the title of "Scenes from an Italian Restaurant" could have come straight from mid-Seventies Genesis. Slipping between genres and decades like a bee that wants to pollinate every flower in the field, he tackled the belated "Goodnight Saigon" with thunderous bass guitar and noises from a brass band, and then, broadening into the grand jazz swing of "Big Man on a Reppie", and treated us to his lovingly Charles impersonation, even donning dark glasses, for "Baby Grand".

His versatile eight-piece band were wisely geared to provide the maximum flexible response, "dishing out" heavy old Chuck Berry riffs on "You May Be Right" but capable of resolving themselves into a barbershop quartet for "Dance" and "The Longest Time".

The show was buoyed up by a steady energy that was maintained for two hours before the really big hits, "Uptown Girl" and "Tell Her About It", were wheeled out as encores. The set itself, "Big Shot" ended with a characteristic lack of pretension.

David Sinclair



Marathon exhaustion: Imelda Staunton and Paul Greenwood

Irish innocence

Public Enemy
Lyric, Hammersmith

Not another play about the Irish troubles set in Belfast? Well, the Belfast of Kenneth Branagh's new play is not the one we are used to, more a mid-Atlantic city with a distinct resemblance to Chicago. Geoff Rose's splendid film noir set consisting mainly of a sinister boarded-up warehouse, is one dislocating factor; another is the lugubrously wisecracking figure of Police Inspector Thompson.

After this introduction, it is not so surprising to see the warehouse's corner panel slide back and reveal an Irish pub in which Jimmy Cagney is doing his "Yankee Doodle" routine. In fact it is Branagh as Tommy Black, a young unemployed Protestant with a passion for Cagney films who is impersonating his idol in a talent competition.

He duly wins the competition and falls in love with the runner-up, a girl called Kitty Rogers (a startlingly natural debut performance by Ethna Roddy) whose offering is a truly awful piece of Country and Western. Things are not too rosy in the Black household, however: father has been killed by the IRA, mother (Brenda Peters) is sacked from her work in a shop and brother Robert is in his 200th job application.

The first half ends with the unexpected murder of a vid-

shop proprietor in Andersonstown. Why anyone should have wanted to commit murder for the £130 in the till, the significance of the missing cassette of the Cagney film *The Public Enemy*, the mystery of why a Protestant should risk wandering round Andersonstown late at night: these are all questions which exercise Thompson (John Rogan) and which it would be unfair to answer here.

Suffice it to say that we go from the lighter side of Cagney to his more sinister side. As the play becomes apparently more serious, though, the element of parody and tongue-in-cheek does not wholly disappear. As far as the overall tone is concerned, the prevailing influence is not film noir but the work of Steven Spielberg. The violence which impinges on the play has a saving touch of absurdity, which comes from the awareness that violence is an artistic convention.

Of course violence in Belfast is not simply an artistic convention, and this is where *Public Enemy* treads on dangerous ground. What saves the day is a vein of genuine innocence running through the fantasy. It comes through also in Kenneth Branagh's charmingly whimsical, mercurial physicality magnetic performance, and makes this into an improbably touching as well as exciting entertainment.

Harry Eyre

THEATRE IN PARIS

Monsieur Chasse!
Comédie Française
Porte St Martin

Genuine French farce is still fully still on the menu at the Comédie Française. It has added to its repertoire a 'suddenly re-worked' revival of Georges Feydeau's *Monsieur Chasse!*, directed with panache by Yves Pignot.

Of Feydeau's 60 farces, *Monsieur Chasse!* is said to have been his personal favourite. Conversely, it cannot be said to be on a par with *Le Dindon*, or *Une Fugue à l'opéra*. Nevertheless, *Monsieur Chasse!* (English title, *The Birdwatcher*) bears all the hallmarks of the Maître Farceur, with occasional sparks of outstanding verbal wit and comic genius.

Concentrating on the piece's finely calibrated physical mechanics, Pignot neatly translates them into an amusing aside. Instead of immediately raising the curtain on Arthur Aballain's deep-pile period design, the lights go down for a giant projection of an exact replica of a silent film, admirably realized by Jean-Philippe Pymartin. When the curtain does go up, the last image on the screen is replaced by its full-colour, flesh and blood original on stage.

This effective mixture of exact matching of filmed and live theatre introduces all three acts. While the audience are giggling at the Chaplinesque antics of the stage staff transforming a staid mahogany drawing room into an outrageously frivolous love-nest, they are working for real unseen (if not unheard) behind the screen.

As always, the plot is roughly the shape of an eternal triangle: Monsieur conceals his infidelities by saying he is out in the wilds hunting with chum, while he is bagging a quite different sort of game in a luxury covert next to the Gare Saint-Lazare.

All runs smoothly until Madame's erstwhile young lover points out that where there is rabbit, there is never hare. Whether this be true or not, the inference is that



Adapted: Jacques Sereys

Monsieur's gamebag is filled not by his own sharp-shooting but by the local poultier.

Time and time again, carnal consummation is thwarted by circumstantial consternation. It is no surprise that the moral of the tale ends up in the pocket of a pair of highly mobile trousers. These occasionally grace the nimble legs of Jacques Sereys, who does full justice to his role as the adulterous husband. Paule Noëlle is a deliciously feminine wife, who completely loses her cool but never, even when stripped down to her corsets, loses her hat.

Roger Mirmont makes a notable debut in the role of Moricet, Madame's frustrated young lover. Combining physical agility with a faultless sense of timing, it is his never-flagging, captivating vivacity which helps to sustain the momentum through the play's weaker moments.

The opening and closing acts are unnecessarily slowed down by verbal explanations and revelations. Top and tail the play with the staccato style of its fast and furiously funny middle act, and *Monsieur Chasse!* could well be everybody's favourite Feydeau, and not just the author's.

Monsieur Chasse! is at the Porte Saint-Martin until July 30, when the Comédie Française closes for its summer break. The labour dispute which exiled the company to the Porte Saint-Martin has been settled, and *Monsieur Chasse!* will now re-open on October 6 at the Française's traditional venue in Place Colette.

Diane Hill

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BRIDGE

Blaming partner

The London Trophy, sponsored by Holborn Unit Trusts, is a Teams competition for non-bridge clubs. The formula, whereby conventions are few and experts are limited to one National Master per team, is obviously appealing, because the entry this year has risen to 256 teams. This, I suspect, is partly due to Freddie Della Porta, who has worked ceaselessly to promote his branch.

He describes an amusing encounter between Oxford St George's Old Boys and Coalhurst Lawn Tennis Club, which occurred in the quarter final last year.

Teams East-West Game Dealer South

♠ A 10 5 2
♥ Q 8 3
♦ 5 3 2
♣ 10 9 8 4

♠ K 7 5
♥ 10 8 6 3
♦ A K J 7 4
♣ 10 9 8 4

The Coalhurst team bid and made four hearts. This was the sequence when Oxford St George's sat North-South.

W N E S
No 10 30
No 20 40
No 30 50
No 40 60

Della Porta observes: "Not all players are immune from the blunderer's habit of blaming partner." Unbelievably, it appears North was critical of South. As I see it, North's only defensible call was his reply to Blackwood. If four hearts over three diamonds was the initial response of one partner, was unforgivable. With four-card support for partner's major it is only correct not to raise on the first round when your hand is

too good to bid game. With one board to play, Coalhurst were leading by 410 points. This was the final hand.

Love all, Dealer West

♠ A 3 2
♥ 10 9 4
♦ 10
♣ K Q J 8 7 2

♠ K 10
♥ 8 6 5
♦ A 10 9 8 7 2
♣ A 8 5 4

When the St George's sat North-South, the bidding followed a predictable path.

W N E S
10 No 20 No 30 No 40 No

On a diamond lead, Dealer made nine tricks. If Coalhurst could make any plus score in the other room, they would still win.

W N E S
10 No 20 No 30 No 40 No

South's pass is certainly timed, although an accurate defence against two spades would still have sufficed. But South started with the ♠A, and despite his partner's discouraging ♠4, continued with the ♠K, which presented East with the contract.

Paradoxically, if South had bid three no trumps, East's bid of two spades could possibly have achieved a spectacular result. Suppose West leads the ♠K. Unless declarer withholds dummy's Ace, there is no entry to the clubs. Now a diamond switch by West will defeat the contract.

It is rare to find a Deschappelles Coup at trick one.

Jeremy Flint

CHESS

Worthy winners

Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall, is the worthy winner of this year's British Schools' Championship, sponsored by *The Times*. In the final, held at London's Great Eastern Hotel, Queen Mary's overcame St Paul's, London, in a nerve-racking mental tussle.

Both teams scored three points, no games were drawn and Walsall emerged on top by virtue of the tie-break system. This favoured wins scored on the higher boards of the match, where the stronger players were in action.

I watched the final closely. It struck me that both finalists were finely balanced in terms of pure chess skill, but what turned the battle in favour of the Midlands side was its collective strength of will.

Individual results were (Queen Mary's names first):

Mark Wheeler beat Ali Mortazavi; Darren Wheeler lost to James Cavendish; Paul Burton beat Alex Selkirk; Michael Gough beat Daniel Alldridge; Mark Cooper lost to Caspar Bates and Mark Hewitt lost to Tim Crosland.

Here is the decisive top board game.

White: Mark Wheeler (Queen Mary's); Black: Ali Mortazavi (St Paul's), Dutch Defence.

1 d4 e6 2 c4 f5 3 d5 exd5 4 f3 d6 5 e3 c6 6 f4 c5 7 g3 b6 8 h3 a6 9 g4 b7 10 dxc5

11 d-c4

A bold and unusual decision in the Dutch Defence. White clearly hopes to profit from the open "g" file to launch an attack against the Black King.

Black has won a pawn, but White controls the centre and Black cannot develop his Queen's Bishop. The rest of the game witnesses a desperate race between White's central offensive and Black's frantic attempts to land a direct blow on the White King.

12 f3 d6 13 e3 c6 14 f4 c5 15 g3 b6 16 h3 a6 17 g4 b7 18 dxc5

Now Black's offensive is definitively blocked.

25 ... 26 ... 27 ...

Black resigns

Prizes at the closing dinner were presented by Michael Hoy, managing editor of *The Times*. He invited all schools who have not yet done so to enter for the 1987/88 Championship, for which the closing date is July 25. Write to: The Chief Conductor, The Times British Schools' Championship, 4 Alders Road, Hale Lane, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 9QC. Teachers will need to enclose £3 per team entered, if by cheque, payable to the British Chess Federation.

Raymond Keene

CONCISE CROSSWORD No 1312

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, July 23. Entries should be addressed to: The Times Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, July 25.

ACROSS
1 Supporter (6)
4 Expression (6)
7 Small notch (4)
8 Unfledged bird (8)
9 Space flight science (12)
15 Develop gradually (10)
16 Warning light (6)
17 Elizabeth I's favourite (6,6)
23 Suffocates (8)
24 Cure (4)
25 Brouhaha (6)
26 Wobble (6)

DOWN
1 W. German capital (4)
2 Conceited dandy (9)
3 Refrained last move (5)
4 Spaghetti macaroni (5)
5 Ignited again (5)
6 Producing sound (5)
10 Wanderer (5)
11 Turn over (5)
12 Harsh (9)
13 Dispatch (4)
14 Low dam (4)
18 Sea-ear (5)
19 Exalt (5)
20 Abounds in (5)
21 Emotional disorder (5)
22 Snaggle (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1306 (last Saturday's prize contest)
ACROSS: 1 Stupid 4 Spice 7 Echo 8 Gummel 9 Elizabeth Fry 15 Infamy 16 Artery 17 Belgian Congo 23 Gasoline 24 Lido 25 Temple 26 Mangle
DOWN: 1 Sun 2 Unhelpful 3 Dogma 4 Since 5 Leech 6 Chair 10 Zombi 11 Torso 12 Fledgling 13 Yo-yo 14 Limb 18 Evade 19 Group 20 Alike 21 Cream 22 Tone

The winners of prize concise No 1306 are: E. G. Price, High Wycombe, College Road, Bath, Avon; and Mrs C. Miller, Dene Grange, Lindisfarne Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Baroque to vox pop

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Lully: Atys. Les Arts Florissants/Christie. Harmonia Mundi 1257 58 (three black discs, also CDs cassette)

John Playford's Popular Tunes. Broadside Band. Anon Ra SAR 28 (black disc, also CD and cassette) Flora Gave Me Fairest Flowers. Cambridge Singers/Rutter. Collegium Records CCL 105 (black disc, also CD and cassette)

The tercentenary of Jean-Baptiste Lully's death could have no finer celebration on record than this spirited and stylish recording of the five-act tragedy *Atys*. It not only demonstrates Lully's suave operatic art at its most inspired; it also offers intriguing insights into the self-reflecting art of Louis XIV's court.

Atys was sumptuously presented in 1676. The libretto was Quinault's, the scenery by Bernin, but what most entertained Louis's court was a rumour that the King identified himself with the hero's situation. Atys, who wrongly imagines himself "souverain de son coeur", is actually smitten by the nymph Sagaride. Unfortunately, he waits until the day of her marriage to Cénus, King of Phrygia, before doing anything about it. Cénus takes a dim view of this, as does the goddess Cybele who loves Atys. So she turns Atys insane. In his madness, Atys murders Sagaride and tries to kill himself, but is instead transfigured into a pine tree. All routine stuff for a Baroque opera.

Lully's score, however, is far from routine. Its prime jewel is its Act III "sleep divertissement", when the fitfully slumbering Atys is assailed by "sonnes agréables et funestes" — the good and bad dreams reflecting his troubled psychological state, and splendidly characterized in musical

terms. But throughout the work there are plangent, smooth-contoured airs, lulling *entrées* and piquant orchestral touches — none more so than the occasional tings or rattles of authentic Baroque percussion.

William Christie's original-performance group, Les Arts Florissants, have rapidly developed into the finest exponents of the tricky French Baroque stage style in the world today, aided by generous and patient subsidy from the French Minister of Culture, who obviously recognizes a good thing when he sees it (I make no comparisons). To hear not just soloists, but even the chorus ranks, ornamenting so naturally and developing so subtle and flexible a response to *notes inégales*, is to realize how thoroughly the spirit and manner of Lully has been imbued.

This recording also benefits from the fact that cast and orchestra all took part in stage performances last January: there are many bold ideas (particularly some exciting *accelerandi* in ensembles), but also a certainty about the pacing, about changes in tempo and continuo texture, and about the rapport between voices and instruments (60 players in all), that indicates the performers' long mutual acquaintance.

Atys is sweetly sung by the outstanding Guy de Mey, now probably the finest male singer of Baroque opera (from audiences will remember his *Orfeo* last year). Agnès Mellon is light, almost fragile as Sagaride — though in her big Act IV confrontation with Atys she reveals a wider variety of colouring. The fuller-bodied tone and more straightforwardly passionate delivery of Guillemette Laurens (Cybele) provides an excellent foil.

While Lully was assembling great operatic spectacles in Paris, the London publisher John Playford was collecting the latest coffee-shop bal-

Exciting find

ROCK RECORDS

Terence Trent D'Arby: Introducing The Hard Line According To (CBS 450911 1) Jill Jones: Jill Jones (Paisley Park WX110)

Jennifer Warnock: Famous Blue Raincoat (Cypress PL90048)

Terence Trent D'Arby is fond of saying that he has "one foot in R'n'B's past and the other in pop's future", and, by his standards, it is a modest



Timely arrival: Trent D'Arby claims, largely borne out by *Introducing The Hard Line According To*, an album of 10 original compositions and Smokey Robinson's song "Who's Loving You".

Although he has a tendency to show off his extraordinary vocal prowess at the expense of the blues/gospel-tinged "Seven More Days" and the *a cappella* arrangement of "As Yet Untitled", his tremendous range carries him through a

variety of soul singing styles, from the light near-falsetto of "I'll Never Turn My Back On You" to the neo-James Brown funk of "Dance Little Sister".

The bright bumpy hit "If You Let Me Stay" serves to demonstrate the timeliness of his arrival at the scene of popular triumphs by Simply Red and the advertisers of Levis, while "Wishing Well" hints at a potential Prince-like ability to tack the vocal spirit of soul on to the musical vocabulary of rock.

Prince himself has co-produced and co-written half of Jill Jones's sassy debut album and it sounds like it. Jones, a former back-up singer in Prince's group, stomps and squeals her way through the light funk riffing of "G-Spot", the romping, kinky innuendo of "For Love" and a delicate womanly ballad, "With You".

David Sinclair

Simply essential

JAZZ RECORDS

Itchy Fingers Quark (Virgin V2433) Pat Metheny Group Still Life (Talking) (Geffen 924 145-1)

You would, I suppose, have to describe these two albums — the debut from the award-winning British saxophone quartet and the unimpeachable from the touse-haired American guitarist — as examples of "fusion" jazz, a thoroughly discredited category encompassing some of the most unattractive and purely unnecessary music made this century. Yet *Quark* and *Still Life* (Talking) will probably prove to be among the year's essential purchases.

Wisely, the members of Itchy Fingers (Martin Spake, John Graham, Howard Turner and Mike Mower) aimed for more than a mere transfer to disc of their effortless stage performance. Alongside the extravagant, knuckle-busting four-saxophone passages, full of witty rhythmic and melodic touches, they place compositions in which the basic group is augmented by an electrified rhythm section.

Thus expended, the group begins to assume some of the slick textures of Weather Report in the Jacob Pastorius era, or perhaps of a Donald Fagen backing band. But then along comes a few minutes of the blessed Stanley Unwin, or the throttles-out blast of Mower's

writing for full big-band instrumentation on "It's Lovely Once You're In" (which also includes a solo by the great pianist McCoy Tyner), and you know that you are not in the hands of another bunch of Muzak-mongers.

Having reaffirmed his hardcore credibility in collaboration with Ornette Coleman on last year's practically unlistenable *Song X*, Pat Metheny returns to the calmer waters of his own group for *Still Life* (Talking). Adding two male singers specializing in wordless lines to the basic quintet, he and his co-composer, the keyboardist Lyle Mays, settle back into a familiar aesthetic range that spans wintery tone poems and delicious carnival dances.

Both extremes are in plain view here; somewhere in the middle lies "Last Train Home", in which Metheny's chief characteristics — a love of painting pictures in sound, a fondness for overlaying contrasts in momentum, a gift for gloriously simple melody — combine to magical effect in an arrangement that provides a setting for his eloquent guitar, synthesized to sound like one of those old electric stars familiar from Joe Satri's pop hit, "Games People Play". It is a piece that can stand comparison with Charles Mingus's railway classic, "Boogie Stop Shuffle".

Richard Williams

REVIEW



Jean-Baptiste Lully: the recording is imbued with his spirit and manner

lads for publications which fed a seemingly insatiable English demand for such things. They are cracking good tunes, and on John Playford's Popular Tunes the Broadside Band play them with the sort of swaggering virtuosity (and scholarship worn lightly) that makes obvious their appeal to S Pepsys and Co.

Recorder or flageolets swirling in ornamentation above the tune, baroque violin and a tracery of lute in the middle, often a rasping drone-bass at the bottom, this texture is an appealingly rustic one, closer to the folk-lands of today than the baroque ensembles of 17th-century "art music". "Lilli Bulerio" is the best-

known item, but the aptly-titled "Bouzer Castle" is the disc's most irresistible item.

Flora Gave Me Fairest Flowers is a useful compendium of English madrigal "pops", probably aimed at the American market. The pity is that, given the technical quality of the 10 voices John Rutter has at his disposal, his interpretations sound so coy and passionless. Nothing too fast, nothing too slow, all wit erased: the Cambridge Singers evoke *Evensong* in the dear old college chapel even if they are singing about a quick grope with a milkmaid.

Richard Morrison



Wedding day: Gladys Deacon becomes a bride and a duchess

Soap operatics

Gladys, Duchess of Marlborough by Hugo Vickers (Hamish Hamilton, £6.95)

It is difficult to tell the extraordinary story of Gladys Deacon without undue histrionics, given the sensational nature of her life. That Hugo Vickers managed such a task in his first biography is due to two factors — impeccable scholarship (via four years of trans-continental research), and the fact that in 1975 he tracked down this wizened, white-haired old lady to the psycho-geriatric ward of a Northampton hospital. After some 65 interviews, he embarked on this remarkable document of an equally remarkable woman.

The story might have come from an American soap-opera; a young girl achieves her ambition to marry into the upper echelons of British aristocracy, denying all other suitors — but the fairy-tale goes sadly awry. The huge castle (Blenheim) first intimidates, then depresses her wayward spirit. "The mere thought of those huge rooms makes my aching legs ache more" — and her *ennui* now deepens as she discovers that her prince is less than charming.

The book gets right to the heart of Gladys's character — and deals with the delicate subject of the infamous wax injections (with which she sought a classical profile) and their ravages on her looks without sensationalism, and

with the same honesty as Epstein displayed in the 1917 bust of his friend.

The *Belle Epoque* is the central stage for Gladys's early life, for that is where she captivated the hearts of Keyserling, Berenson, and Anatole France. D'Annunzio was reported to have fainted at her beauty; and here the friendships with Proust and Montesquieu come vividly to life, courtesy of Mr Vickers.

It is the "sense of adventure and bizarre intelligence" within Gladys that emerges — from Henry James's observations of her dramatic early family life, to Chips Channon's exaggerated encounters in the Forties with the then reclusive Dowager Duchess. By then, having been evicted from Blenheim, Gladys was living alone at Chacombe, surrounded by her dogs and barbed-wire.

Thus this Gothic tale ends, almost proverbially, with the heroine left alone in old age. The story is long in the telling, but somewhere, perhaps through those "indiscreetly blue eyes", the determination, intellect, and self-effacement still fascinates.

When Hugo Vickers was interviewing Gladys shortly before her death (aged 96), there was only one subject which she would not touch on. "Gladys Deacon? ... she never existed."

Philip Hoare

NEW PAPERBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books:

FICTION

An Easter Egg Hunt, by Gillian Freeman (Pavane, £2.95) On Easter Sunday, 1915, the girls from a select Academy for Young Ladies go on an Easter egg hunt. One of them never returns. She is 17 and in love with a young airman marked to die. *Smiles and the Millennium*, by Miranda Miller (Virago, £3.95) Dystopia of London in the near future, when the elite live in mansions, and the rest in shanty towns on UN ration. *Test Time at Tillingfold*, by John Parker (Star, £2.25) Charming, nostalgic village cricket at Tillingfold, stepson of High de Salinecourt's classic of the peculiar English rite *The Countrywoman*, by Paul Smith (Picador, £3.50) *Slum psychology*, sadness and riotous humour of the Irish gutter

NON-FICTION

An Author's Guide to Publishing, by Michael Legat (Robert Hale, £4.95) Useful and sensible *scribble mecum* to the inky trade from contracts to reviews to how to deal with literary editors. *Okker Chic*, by Michael Thomas (Corgi, £3.95) Drongo and joyous journalism from former *Flying Stone* hack from some of the most unsavoury and improbable places on the planet. *The Gilbert and Sullivan Companion*, by Leslie Ayrs (Penguin, £7.95) Reference book with more than you could possibly want to know, from the first artists to warble Yum-Yum, to concise accounts of the operas, to irrelevant anecdotes and allusion



THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Go north, nicely

The Prince of Wales's zeal for urban renewal seems to have had much to do with the Clore Foundation's decision to locate its next cultural baby (following the Tate's new Turner Gallery) in unglamorous Halifax. After two years of searching for London sites for a children's "hands-on" museum, called Eureka. HRH, in his role as patron of Business in the Community, has persuaded the foundation to help revitalize the Calder Valley with the project, for which it will put up at least £5 million.

"We found the people in Halifax efficient and enthusiastic, a complete contrast to London," says Stephen Feber, director of the foundation. But the capital is not being entirely abandoned. Discussions are already underway about converting the old Oxo Tower near Blackfriars Bridge into a second Eureka museum.

Among the things you never knew you never knew about *Miami Vice*, which starts a new series on television tonight, is that the budget for one programme about the two pastel policemen is greater than the entire annual budget of the real-life Miami vice squad on which it is based.

Alarm call

Mrs Thatcher's private telephone will, I can reveal to her, ring at 11am one day this week. On the line will be a man from the cult Yugoslav art/theatre group Red Pilot. He will tell our leader that he and his colleagues will be performing at the Riverside Studios from July 28, and then, before she can reply (let alone book seats), hang up. Or such is the plan. When the group, which calls itself "a boil on the skin of the state", staged its previous show in Yugoslavia, it employed a tele-sales force to ring top political, military and religious figures and inform them — early.

Second screen

Glenda Jackson is to star in a British film version of Eugene O'Neill's *Strange Interlude*, an epic drama about the soul of man and the destiny of mankind. The film industry last tackled the work in 1932 when Norma Shearer and Clark Gable starred in an MGM version, which was more of an artistic than box-office success. Jackson has talked of making a second film of it for years, but only now have she and Robert Enders, the producer, raised the money from a mixture of American and Welsh sources.

Culture club

Having noticed that there is no museum of international stature in its area, Dartford Council has decided to build one itself. It has the site. It has the money. All it lacks are the contents. It is therefore now advertising for a collection. Almost any collection will do. "We are totally open-minded," says a spokesman.

Peter Freedman

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THE WEEK AHEAD



DANCE

TOP TOES: Merce Cunningham invades Britain on three fronts. Tonight (7.40-8.35pm), BBC2 shows *Points in Space*, a documentary including a specially created ballet. Tomorrow Cunningham's company join their music adviser, John Cage, for *Roaratorio* at the Proms. A two-week season at Sadler's Wells with four programmes opens on Tuesday. Cunningham is 68, but his creative presence makes this one of the world's most arresting and stimulating dance companies. Sadler's Wells (01-278 6916).



OPERA

UNRAVELLED: Maurice Ravel is the composer of both operas in the double bill which makes up Glyndebourne's second new production of the season. *L'Heure espagnole* was seen here in the mid-Sixties, when it was oddly twinned with *Dido and Aeneas*. This week it has a more natural partner in Ravel's other one-act, *L'Enfant et les sortilèges*, receiving its first performance here. Simon Rattle conducts. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 541111). Wednesday (also next Saturday) at 6.30pm.



BOOKS

RADICAL FEMINIST: Simone de Beauvoir dominated not only the French intellectual life but also feminist thinking for 50 years. Her devotion to Jean-Paul Sartre is one of the paradoxes explored in her first full-scale biography, *Simone de Beauvoir*, by Claude Francis and Fernande Gontier (Sidgwick & Jackson, £15, published Thursday). Based on her huge unpublished correspondence, steeped in the atmosphere of St Germain de Prés, it explores the public and private lives of one of the stars of our century.



CONCERTS

SMALL MERMAID: Christoph von Dohnányi, grandson of the composer Ernő Dohnányi, has charge of the BBC Symphony Orchestra for Thursday's Promenade concert. On the programme is the British premiere of Zemlinsky's symphonic poem *Die Seejungfrau*, based on Hans Andersen's *The Little Mermaid* — a piece neglected for 80 years. He also conducts Brahms's Symphony No 1. Martin Roscoe is at the piano for Richard Strauss's *Burlaske*. Royal Albert Hall (01-589 8212, cc 01-589 9465). Thursday, 7.30pm.



ROCK

GOOD VIBRATIONS: Brian Wilson, the unhappy songwriting "genius" at the heart of the Beach Boys' troubled dynasty, joins his brother Carl, Mike Love, Al Jardine and Bruce Johnston for a UK postscript to last year's silver jubilee American tour. The teenage surfing harmonies and ringing Chuck Berry guitar riffs of their early work will no doubt evoke the sort of affectionate response that gave them an unforgettable triumph in the adjacent stadium 12 summers ago. Tomorrow, Wembley Arena, Middlesex (01-902 1234).



FILMS ON TV

MOODY MAGIC: Robert Mitchum is at his sleepy-eyed best as the laconic New York private eye hired by a gambler (Kirk Douglas) to find a missing girl (Jane Greer) in *Build My Gallows High*. Directed in 1947 by the expatriate Jacques Tourneur, it is a classic Hollywood film noir, a moody, atmospheric thriller, with crackling dialogue, a tortuous plot, a woman up to no good and a pervasive world-weary cynicism. The film is also known by its American title, *Out of the Past*. BBC2, Tuesday, 9-10.30pm.

THEATRE

FLIGHT: Transfer from Stratford by RSC. David Lan's chronicle of Jewish family, from being refugees from Lithuania to colonials under threat in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe. Directed by Howard Davies. The Pit (01-638 8891). From Thurs. in repertory. Opens July 28.

LIGHT UP THE SKY: Elijah Moshinsky's production of Moss Hart's *Forties* comedy of US theatre life re-cast with Keith Baxter, Art Metrano, Kate O'Mara, Gwen Taylor, Maxine Audley. Globe (01-437 3667). Previews from Mon. Press Night July 28.

MADE IN SPAIN: Comedy of contemporary London low-life, by Tony Grounds. Cast includes Julie T. Wallace, Amanda Drewry. Directed by Wyn Jones. New End (01-794 0022). Previews tonight, Sun. Opens Tues.

MYSTERY OF THE ROSE BOUQUET: World premiere of a play by Manuel Puig, author of *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. Brenda Bruce and Gemma Jones as strangers who meet in a private clinic in South America. Directed by Robert Allan Ackerman. Donmar Warehouse (01-240 8230). Previews Wed, Thurs. Opens Fri.

RAISING THE ROOF: One-off benefit for the Tricycle and the Bush theatres, recently damaged by fire. Writers and performers include Alan Bennett, Simon Callow, Robbie Coltrane, David Edgar, John Fortune, Patti Light, Miriam Margolyes, Roger McGough, Alan Plater, Stephen Poliakoff, Stephen Rea, Griff Rhys-Jones, Prunella Scales, Peter Tinniswood and Timothy West, plus the companies of *The Amen Corner*, *Bouncers*, *Up On The Roof*. Royal Court (01-730 1745). £15-£50. Sun, 7.30pm.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THEATRE: Second of three weeks. Information Line: 01-370 0769. Until Aug 2. This week's openings include: *Barfnaples*: Magician, clown, mime and poet Pep Bou, from Barcelona with a "soap-bubble ballet". Battersea Arts Centre (01-223 2223). Opens Wed. *Cercueil*: From Moscow, Anatoli Vassilov & Company in a play by Victor Slavin. Riverside Studios (01-748 3354). Opens Sun. Until July 26. No performance Wed. *Circus Oz*: Australian all-human circus, combining cabaret and comedy with traditional skills. The Big Top, Coin Street, Upper Ground, London SE1 (01-620 0613). Opens today. Until Aug 9. No performances Mon, Tues, July 27, Aug 3, 4.

CONCERTS
LIGHTWEIGHT PROM: The first Saturday Prom of the 93rd season is a completely undemanding one, with Lahar's *Gold and Silver*, Johann Strauss II's *Thunder and Lightning*, Luntov's *Champagne Galop*, Richard Strauss's *Rosenkavalier* Suite. In all this Bryden Thomas conducts the Hallé Orchestra and Philip Fowke is at the piano for Dohnányi's *Nursery Song Variations*. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-589 8212, cc 01-589 9465). Today, 7.30pm.

ALMEIDA BAROQUE: A new orchestra, the Almeida Baroque, with Simon Standage as conductor/violinist, plays works by Germainini and Vivaldi. Part of the Clerkenwell Festival. St James Church, Clerkenwell Green, London EC1 (01-253 0054). Today, 7.30pm.

MASSSED CHOIRS: The Pennsylvania Madrigal, Wisconsin Wausau Lutheran Civic Choir, the Texas Mastersingers, the Pleasantville Cantata Singers and many others combine to perform Verdi's *Requiem* under Peter Tiboris. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-926 3191). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

VW'S JOE: Vaughan Williams's ballet *Job* is performed by the BBC SO conducted by Sir John Pritchard, as is Falla's *El amor brujo*. And Ida Handel solos in

GALLERIES

PURCELL DOUBLE DEALER: Purcell's incidental music to *The Double Dealer* as well as Locke's incidental music to *The Tempest* and Rebel's *Les Elemens* are played by the Baroque Chamber Orchestra under John Harnwell. St John's, Smith Sq, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Tues, 7.30pm.

WILD RUMPUS: Contemporary British music is to the fore as Oliver Knussen conducts the London Sinfonietta in items from his *Where the Wild Things Are* including a sea interlude, *The Wild Rumpus*. But first come Colin Matthew's *Suns' Dance* and Harrison Birtwistle's *Carmen Arcadiae Mechanicae Perpetuum*. Royal Albert Hall, Tues, 7.30pm.

FROM PRAGUE: The Panocha Quartet of Prague performs Mozart's Quartet K 458 "The Hunt" before giving the London premiere of Vladimir Sommer's Quartet in D minor. Then Wolfgang Manz is added for Dvorak's Piano Quintet. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141). Wed, 7.30pm.

ALL TCHAIKOVSKY: Fraser Goulding conducts the London Concert Orchestra in Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, March Slave, Swan Lake Suite, Piano Concerto No 1 (soloist, Malcolm Binns) and Nutcracker Suite. Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-628 8795, cc 01-638 8891). Thurs, 7.45pm.

FILMS

JEAN DE FLORETTE (PG): Absorbing, beautifully acted version of Marcel Pagnol's novel about Provencal life in the 1920s; with Yves Montand and Daniel Auteuil as villagers at loggerheads with Gérard Philipe over a plot of land. Cuzco Mayfair (01-499 3737). From Fri.

SUPERMAN IV (PG): Superman — now flying under new management (Cannon Films) — tries to rid the world of nuclear weapons. Lex Luthor does his utmost to prevent him. With Christopher Reeve, Gene Hackman, Margot Kidder, Jackie Gleason. Warner West End (01-439 0731). Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-636 6279). From Fri.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BERT HARDY: Sparkling retrospective by veteran photographer who pioneered a British style of photo-documentary in *Picture Post* magazine during the 1940s. The Photogallery, The Carpenters Arms, Shepherd Street, St Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex (0424 440104). Until August 22.

THE WALL: Not only the Berlin Wall but dividing lines throughout the world — green line in Beirut and Peace line in Belfast — come under the scrutiny of photographers such as Bert Hardy, Cartier-Bresson and Bill Brindley. Impression Gallery, Collingrue, York (0904 54724). Until August 29.

ROCK

THE POGUES/HEAD: A "Picnic in the Park" show, starting at 2pm in the Supertent. Other acts are Pottery 5, After Tonight and The Proclaimers. Today, Finsbury Park, London N4 (01-734 8932).

WEST LONDON FOLK FESTIVAL: Starting at noon and featuring Linda Thompson, The Strawbs, Melanie Harrold, Harvey Andrews, Whippersnapper with Dave Swarbrick, and others. Today, The Big Top, Beck Theatre, Hayes, Middlesex (01-561 8371).

TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY: The 25-year-old soul singer, born in Manhattan but resident in Britain, has enjoyed hits with his first two singles and looks like becoming one of the most exciting discoveries this year. Tomorrow, Barrowlands, Glasgow (041 552 4601); Mon, Powerhouse, Birmingham (021 643 4715); Tues, Studio, Bristol (0272 276193); Wed, Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01-748 4081).

GALLERIES

ALVAR AALTO (1898-1976): Furniture and glass designed by the Finnish architect whose forms emphasize the natural world. Victoria and Albert Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 (01-589 6371).

INTRODUCING WITH PLEASURE: Roald Dahl picked a Francis Bacon, and Kate Adie a Christopher Le Brun in this Arts Council show chosen by 12 celebrities. Medway Adult Education Centre, Eastgate, Rochester, Kent (0634 45359). From Wed. Free.

20TH CENTURY ART AND DESIGN: This survey, derived from the gallery's collection, marries Matisse paintings to Lucy Rie ceramics and decorative furniture by Roger Fry's Omega Workshops. City Art Gallery, Mosley Street, Manchester (061 236 9422). From today. Free.

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET: Two more performances of Cranko's romantic masterpiece *Olegin*, with Janette Mulligan and Martin James this afternoon, Natalia Makarova and Ivan Liska tonight. Coliseum (01-836 3161).

WIGAN JAZZ FESTIVAL: Trumpeter Freddie Hubbard gets an ambitious festival off to a rousing start by leading a genuine all-star ensemble in a tribute to Louis Armstrong's classic *Hot Five* and *Hot Seven*. Tonight, Mill at the Pier, Wigan (0942 828076).

JOHN COLTRANE MEMORIAL: 20 years after his death, the young British groups of the saxophonist Steve Williamson and the flautist Phil Bent pay tribute to a master. Tomorrow, Theatre Royal, Stratford East, Gerry Raffles Square, London E15 (01-534 0310).



Hot on the trail: Debra Winger, left, and Theresa Russell as the woman she suspects of killing a series of wealthy husbands

Rafelson is back in black

Bob Rafelson has said he is "not attracted to making just any movie" — though that does not entirely explain the seven-year gap between *The Postman Always Rings Twice* and his new film *Black Widow*, in which federal agent Debra Winger obsessively hunts a predatory murderer (Theresa Russell). The director of *Five Easy Pieces* and *The King of Marvin Gardens*, brittle classics of the early 1970s, told one interviewer he had a "perverse ego". "My spirit," he said, "gets tired and I like to replenish it" — something Rafelson did by watching baseball, mountaineering, and wandering off in remote places. He returned to civilization with a bump by shooting a music video for Lionel Richie. He then took the first steps towards *Black Widow* in a Hollywood supermarket where he met a fellow lone wolf, the distinguished cameraman Conrad Hall, retired from features for 10 years. Hall's sabbatical was spent running a commercials company, writing scripts, and suffering serious ill-health.

GALLERIES

HUMAN RELATIONS: Arts Council touring exhibition, including Sickert, Bratby and Hockney, examining how different artists respond to similar subjects. Buckinghamshire County Museum, Aylesbury (0296 82158). From today. Free.

MICHEL JEAN CAZABON (1813-1888): Interesting first exhibition of portraits and landscapes by rediscovered black Trinidadian painter. Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (01-602 0702). From Wed. Free.

DANCE

BOLSHOI BALLET ACADEMY: Students and recent graduates of the famous Moscow dance school open a two-week London season, followed by a tour to Manchester, Southampton and Birmingham. Each programme includes one or more substantial extracts from famous ballets and a group of shorter showpieces. Coliseum (01-836 3161). Tues to August 1.

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Hot on the trail: Debra Winger, left, and Theresa Russell as the woman she suspects of killing a series of wealthy husbands

Rafelson is back in black

At this point the elliptical plot begins to stagnate and look overly foolish. But there are always the performances to compensate. For Theresa Russell, usually seen in enigmatic films by her husband Nicholas Roeg, Catharine the black widow might be the breakthrough to greater stardom: she is the perfect mix, endlessly provocative, leaving the audience to guess her reasons. Debra Winger starts out looking worn, slumping around in bulging clothes and unmanageable hair, but she beautifies herself once in Hawaii. New costumes help, though her chief accomplice is Conrad Hall. Throughout, he shows how to conjure up striking beauty from the mundane — from an airport on a dark snowy night, or the glaring violet of a sunlit machine. Welcome back Hall, and welcome back Rafelson!

GALLERIES

JVC/CAPITAL JAZZ PARADE: Sarah Vaughan shares Monday's opening bill with George Fats, examining how the Crusaders and Chick Corea (Tues), the potentially electrifying juxtaposition of Stan Getz and Branford Marsalis (Wed), Wynton Marsalis and Courtney Pine (Thurs) and a New Orleans evening (Fri). From Mon, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191).

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL: Strauss's *Capriccio* continues its successful run tonight, Tues and Thurs at 5.50pm. Peter Hall's perceptive production of *Così fan tutte* tomorrow at 4.10pm and Fri at 5.10pm. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 541111).

BUXTON FESTIVAL: Opens today with the first opera on Thurs at 7.45pm: a double-bill of Rossini's *L'occasione fa il ladro* and Donizetti's *Il Pigmaliione*. Malcolm Fraser directs both and Anthony Hogg conducts. Opera House, Buxton, Derbyshire (0298 71010).

OPERAS

PIMPERNEL SMITH (1941): Leslie Howard as director and star of an engaging wartime play about a letter-day Scipio Pimpernel organizing escapes from Nazi Germany. BBC1, Mon, 1.50-3.45pm.

THE BELLS OF ST MARY'S (1945): Handkerchiefs to the ready as Bing Crosby recreates his Catholic priest from *Going My Way* and spars with Sister Ingrid Bergman over the extension to a poor city school. BBC1, Tues, 1.50-3.50pm.

DELIVERANCE (1972): Burt Reynolds and Jon Voight lead John Boorman's gripping allegory about four city dwellers who test their manhood by canoeing down a dangerous river and discovering that the main enemy is themselves. BBC1, Wed, 10.10-11.55pm.



Hot on the trail: Debra Winger, left, and Theresa Russell as the woman she suspects of killing a series of wealthy husbands

Rafelson is back in black

only eventually to fall for Paul herself. But there are always the performances to compensate. For Theresa Russell, usually seen in enigmatic films by her husband Nicholas Roeg, Catharine the black widow might be the breakthrough to greater stardom: she is the perfect mix, endlessly provocative, leaving the audience to guess her reasons. Debra Winger starts out looking worn, slumping around in bulging clothes and unmanageable hair, but she beautifies herself once in Hawaii. New costumes help, though her chief accomplice is Conrad Hall. Throughout, he shows how to conjure up striking beauty from the mundane — from an airport on a dark snowy night, or the glaring violet of a sunlit machine. Welcome back Hall, and welcome back Rafelson!

GALLERIES

THE SET UP (1949): Excellent low-budget thriller directed by Robert (The Sound of Music) Wise, with Robert Ryan as an ageing boxer who refuses to throw his last fight. BBC2, Fri, 11.55pm-1.10am.

RADIO
JOHN STEINBECK: author of *The Grapes of Wrath* and other conscience-pricking novels of American life, is the first of six American writers profiled in a new series by Bel Mooney. Friends of Steinbeck and his widow, Elaine, fill out the portrait (Radio 4 VHF, today, 4.30-5pm). Steinbeck's study of Californian down and outs in the 1930s, *Cannery Row*, is the new *Book at Bedtime*, starting on Radio 4 on Monday, 10.15-10.30pm.

A TRADITION OF SYMPATHY: A series of montage documentaries, presented without commentary, on the life of a busy hospital (the Middlesex). Programme one visits the children's ward. Radio 4, Tues, 8-8.30pm.

PORCH SONGS: Comedy by Lesley Bruce (whose *Lizzie* is a parody of *My Darling Clementine*) about a widow (Pauline Lette) who returns home to find the doors bolted against her. With Graham Crowden, Mary Wimbush and Jonathan Taitler as a parrot. Radio 3, Tues, 9.50-10.50pm.

WCC - THE FULLY HARMONIOUS AND TOTALLY UNAUTHORIZED HISTORY: Peter Tinniswood's irreverent celebration of the bastion of

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS
Continued from facing page
SATURDAY
BBC1 WALES 6.55-7.00pm: Sports News Wales. **SCOTLAND 6.55-7.00pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 7.00-7.15pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 7.15-7.30pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 7.30-7.45pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 7.45-8.00pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 8.00-8.15pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 8.15-8.30pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 8.30-8.45pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 8.45-9.00pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 9.00-9.15pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 9.15-9.30pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 9.30-9.45pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 9.45-10.00pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 10.00-10.15pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 10.15-10.30pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 10.30-10.45pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 10.45-11.00pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 11.00-11.15pm:** Scottish News and Sports. **SCOTLAND 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SUNDAY

SUNDAY

smartens himself up, becomes one of the family and virtually replaces the missing Dad. The writer, Julia Kearsley, makes the mistake of trying to cram too much in, with inevitable loose ends, though the skilled cast does its best to hide them.

● A pat on the back to Channel 4 for its excellent coverage of the Tour de France (6.15pm) which today reaches Stage 18 from Carpentras Bedoin to Le Ventoux and the start of five punishing days in the Alps. It was on this stage, 20 years ago, that the British cyclist, Tommy Simpson, died, and a memorial ceremony is being held at the spot.

Rosemary Leach as the abandoned wife in Julia Kearsley's play *Leaving Home* (Channel 4, 9.15pm)

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CHANNEL

CHANNEL 4

9.25 Darwaza. Episode three. **10.00 Bandung File (I)** **11.00 The Watsons.** The first of a new series.

12.00 Network 7. Current affairs programme for young people. This is the 50th edition of *Items on the Beach*: Boys; a young farmer; lie detectors; and the secret life of a gossip columnist.

2.00 Natures in Focus. Helen and her son Chris investigate the bogs and streams of *Howdouna*. (Oracle)

2.30 Film: The Benny Goodman Story (1956) starring Steve Allen. A colourful musical biography of the 'King of Swing' featuring performances from, among others, Harry James, Gene Krupa and Teddy Wilson. Directed by Valentine Davis.

4.45 The Dream That Kicks. Part three of the series about images of Wales and the Welsh on film focuses on productions that reconstructed the experiences of Wales of the 1940s and immediately after the *Second World War*.

5.15 News Summary and Weather followed by *Universide 87* Zagreb. *The World Student Games*.

6.15 Tour de France 1987. Stage 18: *Parpaiss* from Brian to Le Ventoux, the first of five ventures in the Alps. There is also a memorial ceremony at the spot where the British rider, Tommy Simpson, collapsed and died 20 years ago.

7.15 The Struggles for Poland. Part five: *The Squeakers of the Squares 1956 - 1970.* (Oracle)

8.15 People to People: Invisible Workers. The first of a new series dealing with collaboration between groups within the community and film-makers. This programme examines the role migrants play in the British economy.

9.15 Play: Leaving Home. (Oracle) (see Choice)

10.15 Film: To Each His Own (b/w) (1946) starring Bette Haverill in her Oscar-winning role of an unmarried mother who looks back during the *Second World War* at sacrifices she made for the sake of her son. Directed by Mitchell Leisen. Ends 12.30.

Radio 3

Yosip: Ronald Pickup reads Igor Pomerantsev's story

7.30 Proms 87: Endymion Ensemble, with BBC Singers. Conductor: Simon Joly. With singers Rodgers, Palmer, Caley, Howlett, and pianists Nettle, Markham, Bridge, and Higgins. Stravinsky's *Les Noces*. In the interval, Peter Dickinson talks to John Cage

8.25 Proms (cont'd): John Cage's *Roaratorio*: with Merce Cunningham Dance Co., John Cage (speaker), and Gladys Mar

Mozart (Quartet in D minor, K 421)

9.50 A shock in the
Chaparral: interview with
Professor Michael Soule
Alban Brasseur Ensemble:
9.50 John Metcalf (Quintet), John
Howard (Sonata), Fickner
Madrigal
10.10 Music and Sweet Poetry:
English madrigals by William
Byard, performed by
Consort of Musick
10.50 Mozart: Bouremouth
Sinfonietta with Anne
Quelhelec (piano).
Mozart (Piano Concerto No
22), J. C. Bach
(Symphony in D, Op 18 No
4), Baird (Colas
Breugnon suite), **11.57**
News **12.00** Close

Radio 4

7.00 East Lyme by Mrs
Henry Wood (c. 18) An MP for
East Lyme

8.00 A Good Read Brian
Gast invites Nigel Barley
and Amanda Theunissen to
pick paperbackbacks.

8.30 A Word in Edgeways.
Brian Redhead in
conversation with Lady
Ewert-Biggs, Dr Martin
Gilbert and Rabihi Hugo
Gryn.

9.00 News: A Lexicon of
Laughter, With Richard
Anthony Baker.

9.30 Law in Action.
Presented by John Eddiow

9.55 Weather

10.00 News

10.15 Victoria with Anna
Massey as the Queen. (5)
Berserk

11.00 Songs of Faith. (2) The
Gift of Contemplation

11.15 Ghost Story Joss
Ackland reads A Little Place
off the Edgeways by
Graham Greene

11.30 Hermione (Tribute to
Hername Gingsold) (3)
Wartime London (1)

12.00 News, Weather

VHF (available in England and S
Wales only) as above except:

7.00-8.00 Open University

Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m:VHF-90-

Regional TV: on facing page

Journal of Management Inquiry 22(1)

'Good value' the key for Labour says Kaufman

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's new foreign affairs spokesman, yesterday told the party that it could not hope to beat the Tories at its own game of tax-cutting, and should not tear up its roots in an attempt to increase electoral appeal.

He said: "The Conservatives will always be able to outbid us, since they will readily cut taxes more and more even if tax cutting means reduced public services." The Tories would be willing to raise the funds by privatisations that Labour could never contemplate.

"Why should the electorate turn after a dozen years in opposition to a Labour Party offering what the Conservatives will have shown they can actually provide in a dozen years of government?" he asked. "Even were we to do so, the Conservatives could outflank us by offering even more of the same."

Mr Kaufman exposed Labour's dilemma by rejecting the idea that the party should turn its back on its traditional policies and yet admitting that Labour must win the votes of at least three million people who at the last election preferred Tory tax cuts or chose the Alliance because they were wary of Labour.

"We have to win the votes of the affluent because June 11, 1987, proved that the votes of the poor, the deprived

and the ethnic minorities can deliver no more than 229 seats in Parliament," he said.

Representing those people was a "noble mission" but Labour could not win without support in the constituencies of other parties. People would not vote for Labour if they thought it would take away things they valued. "Socialism must mean fairer shares of affluence, not equal shares of poverty," he said.

Mr Kaufman's contribution to Labour's internal debate did not take sides in the argument between Mr Bryan Gould's call for Labour to listen to what the people wanted, provide it and promote it better, and Mr Roy Hattersley's warning that the policies could not be sold like soap powder. Instead he called on Labour to become the party of good value public services.

Labour had to demonstrate that it was not merely well-intentioned but able to pay the bills. It had to show it was not merely the party of wealth consumption but of wealth-creation. Above all, he said: "We must demonstrate that we are the party of production and that the increment from production can not only fulfil individual and family aspirations but can provide the resources needed for improving community services without unacceptable levels of taxation."

Baker unveils new curriculum body

Continued from page 1

that working groups of experts will outline the curriculum. Their recommendations, Mr Baker explained, will then be considered by the new council.

He told the annual conference of the Council of Local Education Authorities in Lancaster, a largely hostile audience of Labour dominated authorities, that the Government was not planning to "take the show over".

He said local government would continue to play a crucial role in schools and colleges.

Mr Baker said: "The Government's policies will not be effective unless they secure the co-operation of the education service and the schools. For this reason we shall consult widely and we shall listen to what we are told."

Mr Baker said that parents would no longer accept a state education system that was based on the principle of "take it or leave it".

He said parents were demanding greater freedom of choice and that schools' suc-

cess would depend in future on the degree to which they satisfied their customers.

Mr Baker said both parents and employers were worried about education standards. They were not convinced that schools were equipping pupils for adult life.

He said the Government's radical proposals would introduce a new spirit of competition into the state system and act as a spur to all schools to improve their standards.

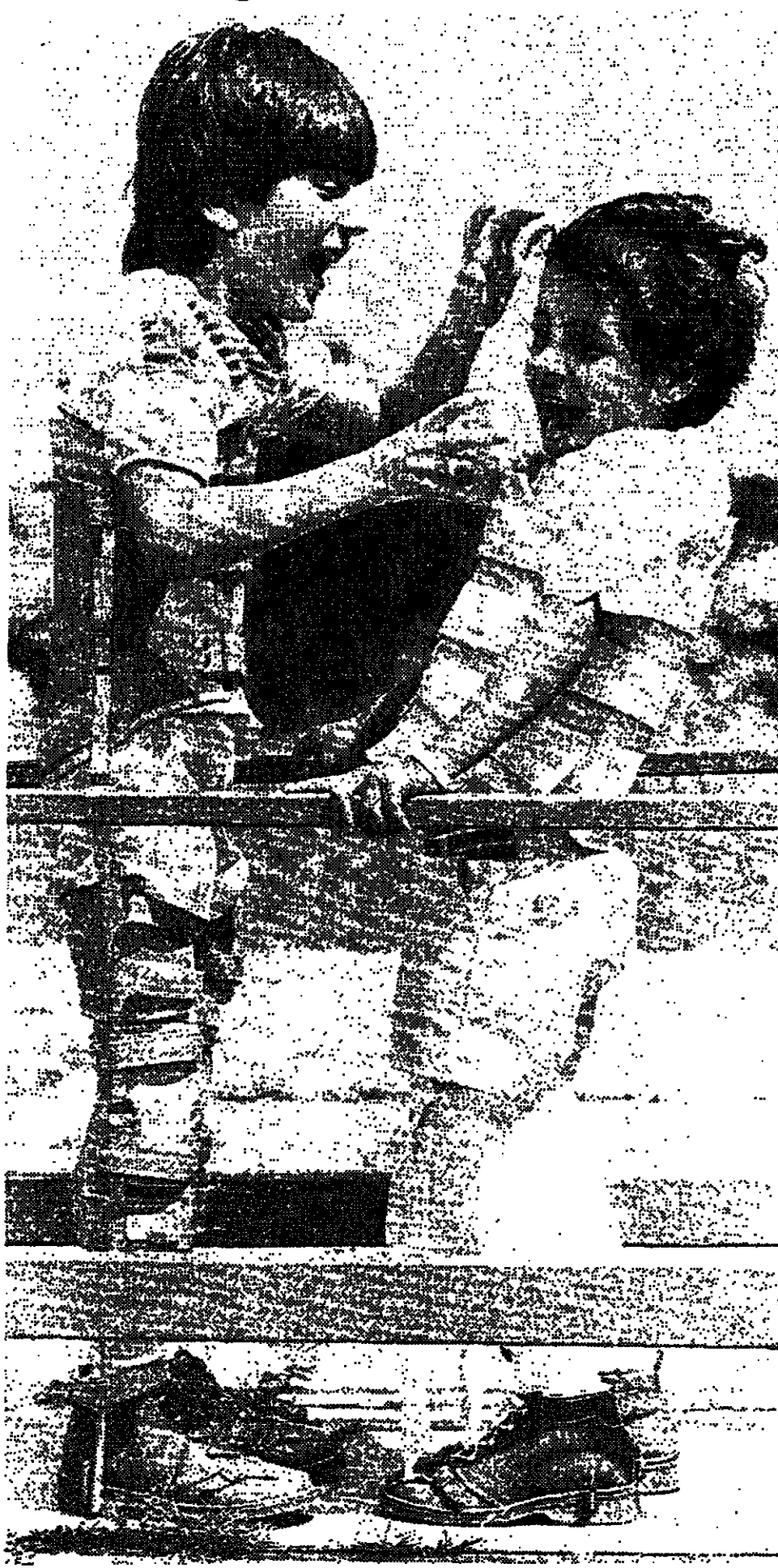
"Choice is popular because it gives people more power to improve their quality of life," Mr Baker said. "We must harness this powerful force to improve the quality of education."

Home economics teachers yesterday called for their subject to be included in the core curriculum for boys and girls aged five to 14 because it "allows pupils to realize the significance of the family".

The National Association of Teachers in Home Economics argue that pupils can hardly be equipped as future parents unless they can cook, manage a family budget and understand the importance of diet.

Tax relief call, page 2

Walking back to happiness



Samir (left) and Bilal from Beirut, back on their feet (Photograph: Kirsten Hughes).

Two paralysed boys brought out of Beirut for treatment at Stoke Mandeville hospital in Buckinghamshire are now standing for the first time, with the aid of a walking box.

The boys, Samir Ibrahim, aged nine and Bilal Shabib, aged seven, came out of Lebanon after a joint effort by Dr Pauline Cutting and Jimmy Saville, who paid for the trip. Dr Cutting nursed Bilal at a refugee camp after he had been shot by a sniper.

Mr Isaac Museibeh, the consultant at Stoke Mandeville, said: "They were both very proud when they stood up. 'They are getting better and better at pushing themselves around and I am sure with perseverance they will walk again.'"

Russian deserter who hid for 42 years

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

An Ukrainian soldier who was believed by his fellow villagers to have been killed in the Second World War, has been discovered alive and well — and living at home.

According to the Soviet weekly, *Nedelnya*, Kuzma Ivanovich Panchenko had spent 42 years in hiding before the local police found out about him. He had spent summers with friends in the countryside and winters in his home village of Kiselyovka, where he lived in a secret cell he built for himself between the stove and the wall.

He went out only at night,

when he would walk past the war memorial which had his name inscribed on it along with those of 45 others killed in action.

Mr Panchenko had always been an unwilling soldier. After successfully evading call-up into the Red Army, he lived quietly through the German occupation of the Ukraine earning a living as a carpenter and cobbler. In 1943, when the territory was recaptured by the Soviet Army he was drafted to serve at the front, but soon deserted and surrendered to the Germans.

Towards the end of the war his prisoner-of-war camp was

Warning of Gulf arms bar

Continued from page 1

Mrs Thatcher's performance delighted Mr Reagan and leading Administration officials. Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, told Mrs Thatcher in their separate private talks that it had been impressive and most helpful.

She told one of her interviewers: "He has got his eyes on the future. We must. America is the flagpole of freedom. She must sail into the sunset not look back at what may or may not have happened."

Mrs Thatcher has refused all attempts to get her to comment on the details of the Iranagate scandal. It was an internal American problem, she said.

She said: "Yes I know how much attention it is receiving. What interests me is that America continues to take her leadership role in the free world. If America does not take that role she injures not only herself but the interests of the free world."

Asked if the President had told her that America was supporting the Contras, Mrs Thatcher retorted sharply: "You don't think I would reveal conversations between the President and the Prime Minister. They are confidential things between countries. I know the President. I believe in the President. I believe he is a great leader. Even during the difficult period he has not let go of his leadership role in any way."

She said that the affair would not weaken Mr Reagan's hand in negotiations with the Soviet Union.

When it was put to her that senior commentators had said that because of Iranagate, foreign leaders would not be able to believe the President's policy statements, Mrs Thatcher remarked sharply: "I am absolutely astonished. I have dealt with the President for many years. I have absolute trust in him."

And she defended the President over the pace at which he was approaching the arms control talks.

Mrs Thatcher said the Soviet Union was not dragging its feet in the negotiations, but perhaps there might be "a bit of brinkmanship".

She denied that time was running out. Both sides wanted an agreement.

Marcinkus free as Rome court cancels warrant

From Roger Boyes, Rome

In a surprise, almost unprecedented move, the Italian Supreme Court yesterday cancelled arrest warrants issued against Archbishop Paul Marcinkus and two other senior Vatican bankers.

The decision seems to end a legal tug-of-war in which the Pope has been resisting attempts by the Italian authorities to extradite the controversial American cleric and his two colleagues from the Vatican, and possibly put them on trial on charges of aiding the fraudulent bankruptcy of the Banco Ambrosiano.

As a result, for the first time in several months, Archbishop Marcinkus, known as "The Gorilla" because of his bulky frame and former security function, can leave the safety of the Vatican wall and go shopping in Rome.

Arrest warrants were issued by Milan magistrates in April against the archbishop and the Vatican Bank (IOR) managing director, Signor Luigi Menzies, and chief accountant, Signor Pellerino de Strobel.

The Vatican questioned the legality of the warrants, which were based on four years of investigation into the chain of dummy companies established, allegedly with Vatican support, by the late Signor Roberto Calvi's Banco Ambrosiano.

The Pope described the Italian arrest proceedings as "brutal". The Vatican argued that the archbishop was a Vatican citizen and that the



Archbishop Marcinkus: Free to shop in Rome.

bank was a "central organ of the Catholic Church", so that the arrest and extradition proceedings violated the Lateran treaties signed between Mussolini and the Holy See.

But various legal institutions have upheld the validity of the warrants. When the State Prosecutor last week personally recommended to the Supreme Court, the so-called Court of Cassation, that it should rule that the archbishop be arrested, it seemed that he would be a virtual prisoner of the Vatican for any number of years. The Supreme Court rarely disagrees with the prosecutor's recommendations.

To the widespread astonishment of Italians, however, the court has effectively set free the archbishop, apparently agreeing with the argument of the Vatican. The political benefits of this decision are so obvious — relations between Italy and the Vatican have become particularly sour over the past few months — that there is speculation that a secret deal may have been struck.

Vatican diplomats had been hinting privately that if all pressure could be removed from Archbishop Marcinkus, a close associate of the Pope, then the Vatican Bank would become more co-operative.

The Vatican was under severe time constraints. First, the Pope wanted Archbishop Marcinkus to accompany him on his September pilgrimage to the United States. Second, the archbishop is said to be involved in the still extremely tentative plan for a papal initiative towards the Catholics of the Soviet Union. Archbishop Marcinkus is of Lithuanian origin, a country where many Soviet Catholics live.

And, perhaps crucially, the two richest Episcopates — the United States and West Germany — are urging a complete overhaul of the Vatican Bank organization. This would probably involve the resignation of Archbishop Marcinkus, which could not be contemplated while he was a fugitive from Italian justice. His removal would be interpreted, especially in the notably anti-clerical Italian press, as an admission of guilt.

Brent schools chief ousted by Labour

The education chairman of the London borough of Brent who was at the centre of the dispute over headteacher Miss Maureen McGoldrick, is to be ousted by his Labour group (Our Education Reporter writes).

Two of the three constituency Labour parties have already voted to replace Mr Ron Anderson with his deputy Mr Nitim Parshotam.

The third will make a decision next week. Mr Anderson is expected to be removed from office on July 29.

ACROSS

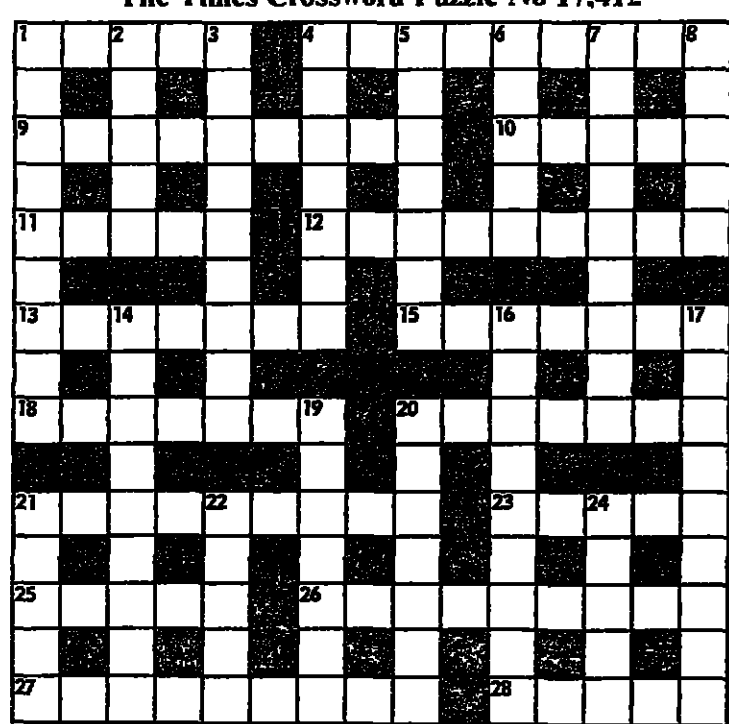
- Back one sort of horse to cover ground again (5).
- Presentation to public for group past their prime (9).
- Clubman has whip-round for cheese (9).
- Part of army in the crowd, they say (5).
- Call up second person without agreement (5).
- Tense, because out of practice? (4).
- Most of the target area is less crowded (7).
- Tell, for example, a joint ruler (7).
- Draws an amateur thief (7).
- One sort of football team in rebellion (7).
- Flowers painter put round revolting subject (9).
- American girl left in noisy skyscraper (5).
- Would-be queen who went down to Buckingham Palace (5).
- Hate to say I'm in disarray (9).
- Pershes in river with it, to maximum degree (9).
- Split money from ordinary share (5).

DOWN

- City Jane loved (9).
- Engraved gem showed up on ring (5).
- Confused peer with PM in Liberal bloomers (9).
- Political leader as empire-builder? Right (7).
- Short sailing boats on hand for light breeze (4-3).
- Rock's ending in sacred place (5).
- Foreigner is artist — the best type (9).
- Gang-leader about, at large (5).
- Conclude a slab of clay is unproductive (9).
- Food I'll be cooking that's essential for survival (4-3).
- Rescue number of Romans held by barbarian (7).
- Namely, one in fleet? Too right! (7).
- Card showing where one's home is (5).
- Money raised for auditor (5).
- Kid I kept in farm building (5).

Concise crossword, page 19

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,412



Solution to Puzzle No 17,406

ACROSS
1 KIRK
4 KIRK
9 KIRK
10 KIRK
11 KIRK
12 KIRK
13 KIRK
14 KIRK
15 KIRK
16 KIRK
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28 KIRK

Solution to Puzzle No 17,411

ACROSS
1 KIRK
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27 KIRK
28 KIRK

A prize of The Times Concise Atlas of the World will be given for the first five correct solutions of the next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mr P W Humphreys, Heath Park Rd, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex; Mr J Kitchen, Wyckley Close, London SE3; Mrs M Arlie, St Andrew's Cres, North Rd, Regent Surrey; Mrs T Walters, Hanbury Rd, Dorridge, Solihull, W Midlands.

Name _____
Address _____

WEATHER

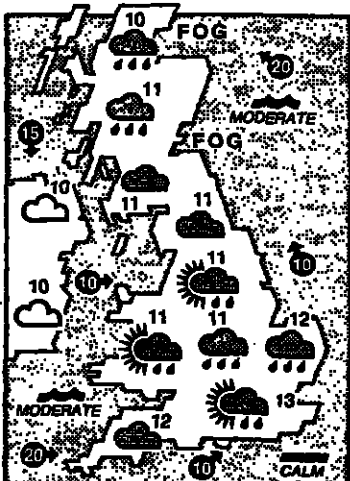
General situation: An area of low pressure will remain slow-moving over Britain. Most areas will have brief sunny spells and showers, some heavy with the risk of thunder, especially over England and Wales. Some northern and eastern parts of Scotland will remain cloudy with rain at times and fog along eastern coasts. A rather cool day. Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Remaining showery and rather cool.

ABROAD				AROUND BRITAIN			
City	C	F	W	City	C	F	W
Algeria	10	50	18	London	10	50	18
Alexandria	10	50	18	Manchester	10	50	18
Athens	10	50	18	Edinburgh	10	50	18
Bombay	10	50	18	Belfast	10	50	18
Buenos Aires	10	50	18	Cardiff	10	50	18
Cairo	10	50	18	Dublin	10	50	18
Calcutta	10	50	18	Glasgow	10	50	18
Colon	10	50	18	Leeds	10	50	18
Hong Kong	10	50	18	Liverpool	10	50	18
Kobe	10	50	18	Newcastle	10	50	18
Madras	10	50	18	Nottingham	10	50	18
Manila	10	50	18	Sheffield	10	50	18
Peking	10	50	18	Sunderland	10	50	18
Rangoon	10	50	18	Swansea	10	50	18
Singapore	10	50	18	Torquay	10	50	18
Taipei	10	50	18	Wrexham	10	50	18
Tokyo	10	50	18	Wolverhampton	10	50	18
Yokohama	10	50	18	Wymondham	10	50	18

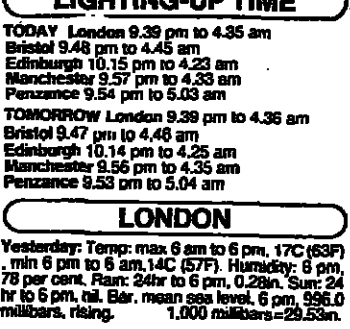
TODAY				TOMORROW			
City	AM	PM	HT	City	AM	PM	HT
London	8.07	6.6	6.5	London	9.01	6.3	6.2
Aberdeen	7.35	5.8	5.7	Aberdeen	8.40	5.6	5.5
Abermouth	1.07	11.8	11.3	Abermouth	1.50	11.2	10.8
Belfast	5.19	3.4	3.1	Belfast	6.22	3.2	3.0
Cardiff	12.52	11.0	10.5	Cardiff	1.41	10.4	10.0
Derby	5.16	5.9	5.8	Derby	12.54	4.7	4.5
Dundee	11.39	4.5	4.4	Dundee	6.16	5.9	5.7
Glasgow	6.34	4.5	4.4	Glasgow	7.26	4.2	4.0
Harwich	6.01	3.6	3.5	Harwich	6.59	3.6	3.5
Hull	12.26	6.4	6.3	Hull	1.27	6.1	5.9
Leeds	5.59	5.0	4.8	Leeds	6.56	4.8	4.6
Liverpool	5.59	5.5	5.4	Liverpool	6.18	4.0	3.8
Lowestoft	4.04	2.0	1.9	Lowestoft	5.08	2.0	1.9
Margate	6.20	4.3	4.2	Margate	7.15	1.1	1.0
Milford Haven	12.11	6.2	6.1	Milford Haven	1.04	5.8	5.6
Newquay	11.30	5.8	5.7	Newquay	12.02	5.9	5.7
Oban	11.48	5.9	5.8	Oban	1.00	5.9	5.7
Penzance	11.26	4.7	4.6	Penzance	1.25	1.6	1.5
Portsmouth	12.38	1.8	1.7	Portsmouth	6.38	1.6	1.5
Southampton	5.16	5.4	5.3	Southampton	6.18	3.8	3.6
Swansea	12.19	6.3	6.2	Swansea	7.14	1.2	1.1
Torquay	10.01	3.8	3.6	Torquay	11.03	4.6	4.4
Wrexham	5.57	5.6	5.5	Wrexham	6.93	3.8	3.7

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.280ft.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

TODAY: London 9.39 pm to 4.35 am
Bristol 9.40 pm to 4.45 am
Edinburgh 10.15 pm to 4.23 am
Manchester 9.57 pm to 4.33 am
Penzance 9.54 pm to 4.33 am
TORQUAY: London 9.39 pm to 4.35 am
Bristol 9.47 pm to 4.48 am
Edinburgh 10.14 pm to 4.25 am
Manchester 9.56 pm to 4.35 am
Penzance 9.53 pm to 4.34 am

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 17C (63F)
min 6 pm to 6 am, 14C (57F). Humidity: 6 pm
to 9 pm, 65%. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.2mm. Sea level
to 6 pm, 101.6 mb. Bar. mean sea level, 6 pm, 556.0
millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

POLLEN COUNT

The pollen count for London and the South-east issued by the Asthma Research Council at 10 am yesterday was 8 (very low). Forecast for today similar. For today's recording call British Weatherline 01-265 0051, which is updated each day at 10.30 am.

TODAY

Sun rises: 5.04 am
Moon sets: 2.40 pm
New moon July 25

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 5.05 am
Moon rises: 12.08 am
New moon July 25

NOON TODAY

Information supplied by London Weather Centre

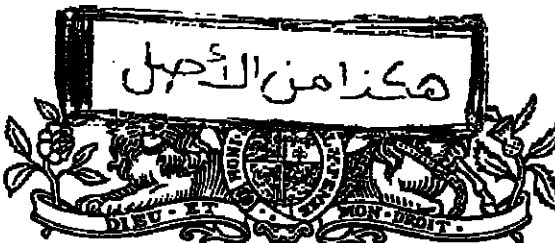
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Rome court
icels warrant

PART 2

SATURDAY JULY 18 1987

THE



TIMES

BUSINESS AND FINANCE 23-36
SPORT 40-44

23

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1916.9 (-9.3)

FT-SE 100

2428.7 (-14.7)

Bargains

577.4 (61215)

USM (Datastream)

219.45 (+1.12)

THE POUND

US dollar

1.6100 (-0.0220)

W German mark

2.9906 (+0.0062)

Trade-weighted

73.2 (-0.3)

SE purge
on late
settlement

The Stock Exchange yesterday announced a crackdown on the rising number of unsettled bargains after the "dramatic increase" in turnover since Big Bang.

"The (Stock Exchange) Council's main concern is with the business that remains unsettled on more than one account after the due settlement date," Sir Nicholas Goodison, the SE chairman, said in a letter to the chairmen of all member firms.

"The council has taken powers to initiate buying-in centrally, to force the settlement of very old bargains," the letter adds. "Consideration is also being given to imposing fines in respect of outstanding unsettled bargains."

Citygrove call

Citygrove, the USM-quoted specialist in developing out-of-town shopping centres, is seeking £3.5 million from its shareholders. The money is being raised through a placing of shares on the basis of two new shares for 11 already held. The company expects to pay an interim dividend of 1.5p.

Price puzzle

William Morris Fine Art, the wallpaper making group, has told the Stock Exchange it knew of no reason for the sharp rise in its share price recently. The company added that it had no knowledge of anyone taking a stake of more than 5 per cent.

Hambro buy

Thomas Robinson Group, the engineer, is buying Hambro Machinery, based in Nottingham, for £5 million through the issue of 861,894 shares, of which 811,988 shares will be placed.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2512.91 (+15.94)
Tokyo	Nikkei Dow	23983.45 (-20.18)
Hong Kong		3342.13 (+36.31)
Hang Seng		319.8 (+2.7)
Amsterdam	Gen	1975.4 (+14.9)
Sydney	AO	1960.7 (+11.5)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank	1960.7 (+11.5)
Brussels	General	413.8 (-2.0)
Paris	CAC	557.00 (+6.50)
Zurich	SIX	557.00 (+6.50)
London	FT 100	2428.7 (-14.7)
FT 30		1916.9 (-9.3)
FT 100		2428.7 (-14.7)
FT 100		2428.7 (-14.7)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISERS:		
Hogg Robinson	628p	(+37p)
CE Heath	554p	(+24p)
Morgan Grenfell	528p	(+42p)
London Intl	350p	(+17p)
J Mowlem	542p	(+18p)
Wendell	398p	(+30p)
VSEL Consortium	308p	(+45p)
Miles Sam Holdings	238p	(+46p)
Johnson Group	530p	(+25p)
Equity & General	84p	(+15p)
Marier Estates	125p	(+17p)
FALLS:		
Baird	255p	(-28p)
Pickering	1048p	(-12p)
J Dickie	125p	(-17p)
MS International	110p	(-11p)
Hewlett Packard	800p	(-14p)
T Cowie	880p	(-48p)

Prices are as at 4pm

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	9%
3-month Interbank 9%	9.1/16%
3-month eligible bills	8 1/2 - 8 3/4%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	9 1/4%
Federal Funds	6 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.57-5.58%
30-year bonds	102 1/2 - 102 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£ \$1.6100	£ \$1.6097
DM £2.9906	DM £2.9906
SwF £2.4889	SwF £2.4889
FF £6.1850	FF £6.1850
Yen £152.80	Yen £152.80
Index 73.2	Index 73.2
ECU £0.694244	SDR £0.782036

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$452.50 pm \$450.60	
close \$450.25-450.75 (\$279.00-279.50)	
New York:	
Comex \$450.60-451.10	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Aug.)	pm \$20.50/bbl (\$20.45)
Denotes latest trading price	
Stock Market 24	Comment 25
Wall Street 24	Travels 25
Money Markets 24	Unit Trusts 26
Foreign Exch 24	Commodities 26
Traded Opts 24	USM Prices 26
Share Stocks 24	Share Prices 27

£282m takeover conditional on Hogg remaining one group

TSB launches
bid for Hogg

By Colin Campbell

TSB, still flush with cash after its Stock Exchange flotation last October, yesterday launched its second large bid since going public. It made a conditional £282 million takeover bid for Hogg Robinson, the travel agency, insurance broker and financial services group, offering 600p a share cash, with a loan-note alternative.

TSB's condition is that Hogg Robinson scraps its plans to demerge and split in half - a motion to be put to Hogg Robinson shareholders at an extraordinary meeting on Monday week.

TSB has a 3.08 per cent interest in Hogg Robinson. Hogg Robinson snapped back last night that both the amount and the form of the offer were "totally inadequate and unacceptable."

It also rejected TSB's contention that the new companies resulting from the planned demerger faced an uncertain future as independent businesses.

Meanwhile, assuming TSB succeeds with its bid for Hogg Robinson, the bank has agreed to sell Hogg Robinson's insurance broking interests to Dewey Warren Holdings (in which Mr Robert Holmes a Court's Bell Group has a 42 per cent stake). The agreed

price was £116 million, and TSB would want cash.

This is the second banking-related development concerning Mr Holmes a Court this week. On Tuesday, he was appointed a group deputy chairman at Standard Chartered Bank in recognition of his 14.99 per cent stake, which makes him Standard's largest individual shareholder.

Hogg Robinson's shares rose 33p to 622p yesterday, and TSB's partly-paid shares

Tempus 25

were up 1 1/2p to 95p. The shares of Dewey Warren were suspended yesterday morning at 280p.

Dewey Warren said it would be making a two-for-one rights issue and use the additional financial muscle to broaden its interests in insurance broking and financial services.

As part of this strategy, Dewey Warren is to buy 6.69 million shares in Morgan Grenfell. This stake, in addition to its existing holdings, would give it 5.19 per cent in the merchant bank.

Mr David Thorn, TSB's deputy managing director, said there had been an approach by Sir John Read, the TSB chairman, to Mr Albert

Wheway, Hogg's chairman, earlier this year, but Hogg "had refused to meet at all about any dealings together."

TSB had then shelved its plan to take over Hogg Robinson, waiting for publication of Hogg Robinson's March year-end results before considering its next move.

Hogg Robinson, meanwhile, held talks with Guinness Peat, the banking, insurance and fund management group, hoping for a merger between their respective insurance interests. The talks were aborted.

The attractions of Hogg Robinson for TSB were its travel agency and growing estate agency business, with about 297 and 85 branches respectively, many with a high street presence and many in London and the South-east, which would give opportunities for development on the financial services front.

TSB did not have the necessary expertise within the insurance business, and was therefore willing to sell that operation to Dewey Warren.

TSB yesterday finalized its £227 million bid for Target, Britain's fourth-biggest unit-linked life office, and recently agreed a £2 million takeover of Boston Factoring.



Unwelcome offer: Sir John Read, chairman of TSB

Court orders
Ward to pay
Guinness £5m

By Lawrence Lever

Guinness has won its High Court action against Mr Thomas Ward, a former director, to recover £5.2 million paid to him via a Jersey company after the takeover of Distillers last year.

The judge, Vice-Chancellor, Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, said that "Mr Ward has been and is wrongfully in possession of Guinness's money" and ruled that he must also pay almost £700,000 in interest in addition to the legal costs of Guinness.

He labelled the £5.2 million deal as "a secret agreement" and said that the "money has at all times been Guinness money."

The ruling boosts Guinness's quest to recover the £25 million unearthed by its auditors last November.

Payments totalling more than £8 million have already been returned and Mr Roger Wellings, of Herbert Smith, Guinness solicitors, said that Guinness was "actively pursuing" all the outstanding payments "one way or another."

While Mr Ward agreed yesterday to hand over \$2 million (£1.2 million) deposited with his solicitors immediately and transfer \$300,000 worth of investments and loans to Guinness, the balance is not instantly realizable.

For instance, it emerged yesterday that Guinness and Mr Ward are in dispute over a \$90,000 boat which Guinness claims he bought out of the £5.2 million.

Sir Nicolas refused a Guinness request for an injunction preventing Mr Ward disposing of the boat. Mr Ward maintains that the boat did not come out of the

£5.2 million. Both sides agreed to make further inquiries.

At the same time Mr Ward has already paid more than \$4.7 million of the money to the US tax authorities.

Mr Ward's counsel, Mr Peter Curry, QC, obtained leave to appeal against the judgment, and Mr Ward still has an outstanding claim against Guinness for a fair reward for the services he provided during the takeover of Distillers.

After the hearing, Mr Ward's solicitors said that there were other legal battles involving Guinness and Mr Ward which were also relevant to the £5.2 million dispute.

Guinness is suing Mr Ward in the US over a £750,000 flat in the Watergate complex in Washington, while Mr Ward's law practice, Ward Lazarus, is suing Guinness for unpaid fees.

Guinness in turn is claiming the return of vital legal documents from Ward Lazarus.

In yesterday's High Court ruling, Sir Nicolas said that Mr Ward had no defence to the Guinness claim for the £5.2 million because he had failed to disclose the payment to "a meeting of the directors" of Guinness in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act.

Mr Ward had also unsuccessfully claimed that Guinness could not have summary judgment against him since he was at least entitled to some reward.

The implication in our previous report (July 9) that the Vice-Chancellor was considering allegations by Guinness against Mr Ward of dishonesty and bad faith was inaccurate. The present action was concerned only with the question of a breach of fiduciary duty.

Saatchi sells stake in
WPP Group for £8m

By John Bell, City Editor

Saatchi & Saatchi has sold its entire shareholding in the WPP Group for just over £8 million. The move follows pressure from Procter & Gamble, the US manufacturer of detergent and household products, which is one of Saatchi's biggest accounts.

It is believed that P&G was concerned over a potential conflict of interest, as one of its biggest rivals, Unilever, is a client of J Walter Thompson, now part of the WPP Group.

Saatchi & Saatchi bought shares in WPP some time after Mr Martin Sorrell, the group's former finance director,

moved into WPP in 1985. Their holding was successfully placed yesterday by Panmure Gordon, the broker, with institutional investors in Britain, Europe and the US.

Around 1.6 million new nil-paid shares were sold for 28p each. These were shares to which Saatchi & Saatchi were entitled under the terms of the rights issue to fund the purchase of JWT.

The balance of the placing consisted of 840,000 old shares at 89p each. Market sources say the disposal has been expected for some time.

Caledonia
lifts stake
in Close

By Cliff Feltham

The wealthy Cayzer shipping family is significantly lifting its stake in Close Brothers, the merchant banking and investment group.

Close yesterday announced a £24 million rights issue and a share placing with Caledonia Investments - the financial vehicle for the Cayzer family - which will double its stake to 22 per cent.

The deal comes soon after Caledonia disclosed plans to withdraw all but a small proportion of its long-standing investment in British & Commonwealth Holdings, the former shipping group the Cayzers helped create more than 25 years ago.

There is no suggestion, however, that Close Brothers will turn into an investment arm of the family. Mr Roderick Kent, Close Brothers' managing director, said: "Caledonia has indicated it does not intend to increase its shareholding significantly in the foreseeable future."

"We are very comfortable with the relationship. We look upon it more like a Mrs Thatcher and Mr Reagan special relationship."

The rights issue - which will be taken up in full by Caledonia and four other large shareholders - is on the basis of one new share at 205p for every four held.

There is an additional placing of 4.5 million shares at 250p each with Caledonia.

Close Brothers forecasts pretax profits of not less than £3.5 million for the present year, an increase of 33 per cent.

Mr Peter Buckley, chief executive of Caledonia and nephew of Lord Cayzer, said: "Our increased stake is in no way intended to restrict the independence of Close Brothers."

Olympia & York
poised to rescue
Canary Wharf

By Ray Heath

The cloud over the future of Canary Wharf, the London Docklands office complex, began to lift yesterday, as Olympia & York, the Canadian property company, poised itself to take control of the project.

The deal would mean a much diminished role for the members of the Canary Wharf Development Consortium which originated the concept. They are bankers Credit Suisse First Boston, Morgan Stanley and First Boston and Mr G Ware Travelstead, the United States developer.

Mr Paul Reichmann, one of the founding brothers of O&Y, said in London yesterday that his company would want complete control over the development of Canary Wharf, but there were likely to be few large changes to the futuristic 12 million sq ft project.

The key master building agreement was believed to be ready for signing yesterday but a few formalities remained. The signatories would be O&Y, First Boston and the London Docklands Development Board. Once the agreement is completed, construction on the site on the north of the Isle of Dogs can begin after delays which had raised concern that Canary Wharf would never take shape as originally planned.

Late last month Credit Suisse First Boston and Morgan Stanley were said to have pulled out as primary backers of the project, although were still interested in taking space.

The price that O&Y is prepared to pay to buy its way into the deal has not been

revealed, but would have to cover the costs incurred by the consortium in planning and administration, which are estimated to be about £80 million.

If it follows its past practice, O&Y will take on the full financing of the 72-acre development, expected to be about £3 billion. Mr Reichmann promised yesterday that his company could complete the scheme twice as fast as the original consortium.

It had originally been estimated that Canary Wharf would take between 10 and 15 years to complete, but Mr Reichmann said yesterday that five to seven years was realistic.

"We have a record of never having made a statement which was not kept exactly. All the projects we have announced have been done very fast," he said, and forecast that the first phase of 5 million sq ft could be ready in two years.

The signing of the of the agreement, which would commit O&Y to the first £1.8 billion phase, would be good news for the contractors commissioned by the consortium, Costain, John Laing, John Mowlem, Newarthill and Taylor Woodrow. Mr Reichmann said that as far as possible the original commitments would be honoured.

Mr Reichmann saw no problem in finding tenants for Canary Wharf. To attract tenants who would face difficulties in moving out of recently acquired accommodation, he said that O&Y was prepared to buy out their present leases if necessary.

Demand for compact discs 'will cut price to under £10'

Nimbus plays a popular tune

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Compact disc videos of top popular recordings could be on sale in Britain at under £10 within the year.

Nimbus Records, the British company that has won 5 per cent of the world compact disc market in the last two years, said yesterday it will have a five-inch, five-minute combined video-audio CD on show in the all-important United States market by September and in Britain next year.

The privately-owned company is developing a large scale mastering lathe for compact disc video (CDV) for the production of eight-inch and 12-inch double-sided discs that will be capable of recording feature films. Philips and Sony are already producing so-called "combination players" for CDV.

The latest development marks another step forward for CD technology, which took off in the British market last year and now looks set to compete strongly against conventional vinyl long-playing records and half-inch video tapes.

With competition, particularly from Japan, growing in intensity, Nimbus this week announced 108 redundancies among the 500 workers at its Hereford-

shire and Gwent plants, a cut that the company yesterday blamed on "over-staffing" and the impact of continuing drives to increase productivity and efficiency.

Nimbus, a Queen's Award winner, which has its own recording label and a reputation for favouring classical music, claims to have been two years ahead of any other British competitor when it entered the world of CD production in 1984.

Now, in spite of the relatively high cost of CDs compared with LPs, the music world - including the crucial high volume popular music recorders - are beating a path to the doors of the CD makers. According to BIS Mackintosh, a market research consultancy, last year's world sales of CDs were 140 million and should rise to 300 million this year.

Almost 30 CD factories are planned for this year or next, mostly in Western Europe or North America, adding another 260 million units of capacity, and one forecast is that world demand will rise 12 times by the end of the decade and that by 1995 sales will have risen to 1.2 billion a year. Nimbus is investing \$10 million (£6.21 million) in a new factory in the shadow of the Blue Ridge

Mountains of Virginia in the US, financed by the United Bank of Virginia, and expects to be employing 250 people producing 20 million CDs by next summer.

Even more dramatic is the predicted surge in demand from business for compact disc technology in preference to traditional computer software for storage of information. CD for this purpose is forecast to rise from 1.6 million units this year to seven million in 1988 and 110 million in 1990.

The result of the big boom in CD demand, says Nimbus, should be a narrowing of the gap in prices between CDs and long playing records, with the CD price coming down this autumn to between £8.99 and £9.99 for original recordings.

Nimbus, founded by the professional singer Count Alexander Numa Labinsky and now owned by him and two brothers, Mr Michael and Mr Gerald Reynolds, both recording experts, has lifted its turnover from £500,000 three years ago to nearly £20 million this year, with exports rising from £73,000 in 1984 to £3 million last year. This year, the company is forecasting a pretax profit of £2.1 million.

£1bn gilt issue
to be tendered

A new issue of £1 billion of short-dated gilt-edged stock, 8 per cent Treasury 1991, will be issued by tender next Wednesday at a minimum price of £97 1/4 per cent.

Share prices finished firm, helped by the pound's strong performance, although the market had been expecting tranches of existing stock rather than a full tender.

Traders concluded the relatively low yield at the minimum tender price implied prices would continue rising.

The stock will largely form part of next month's funding programme rather than that of this month. Only £20 per cent is payable at tender with the balance due on August 24.

Oppenheimer

Two year
performance.

Trust	Percentage increase in value	Position in sector
Worldwide Recovery	+168.6	2nd
Income & Growth	+151.6	3rd
UK	+141.2	48th
Pacific	+120.0	14th
International	+111.1	13th
Practical	+108.3	1st
European	+105.2	16th
Japan	+104.6	31st
High Income	+76.9	15th
American	+23.4	46th

Figures, two years to 13.7.87. Source: Oriel, after robust, net income reweighted

Over the two years to 13th July eight of our ten authorised unit trusts have more than doubled investors' money.

For further details about any of the above funds, telephone 01-489 1078 or write to Oppenheimer Trust Management Limited, Mercantile House, 66 Cannon St., London EC4N 6AE.



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STOCK MARKET

Allied-Lyons' placing raises £81m

By Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster.

Allied-Lyons, the food and drinks group, has raised about £81m (£81 million) following a placing of shares in North America with Canadian fund managers.

Under a cloak of secrecy, it has placed 17.7 million shares, or 2.5 per cent of its issued capital, with a number of Canadian institutions in Toronto and Montreal, at Can\$9.85, or 458p a share. The institutions have been asked to pay 60 per cent down, with the balance due next January. They will be able to trade the shares on the Toronto and Montreal stock markets via an instalment credit — a sort of unofficial ADR — on the basis of one-for-one. This placing is the first step in the group's plan to apply for a full listing on the Toronto stock exchange later this year.

It is thought that Allied is unlikely to announce the deal until it has had time to publish a full prospectus for the institutions who have taken up the shares. However, it came to light thanks to some clever detective work by Mr Victor McColl, a drinks expert at Kleinwort's, a drinks expert at Kleinwort's, a drinks expert at Kleinwort's.

which he had picked up from Kleinwort's New York office. He was not surprised by the deal which goes further in cementing Allied's relations with the Canadians after its acquisition of Hiram Walker, the Tia Maria, Courvoisier and Canadian Club group, for which it paid £1.25 billion in April.

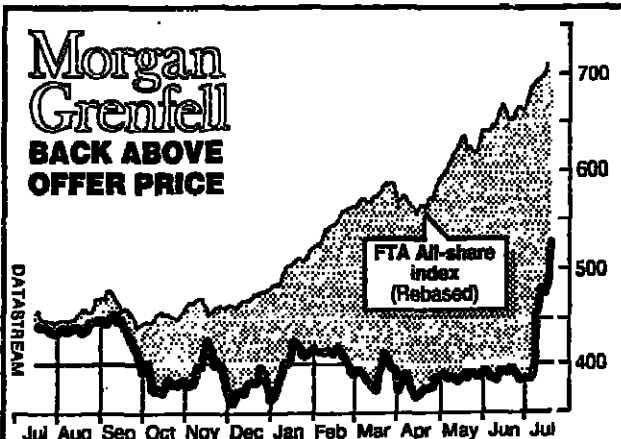
As the deal was kept so carefully under wraps, Allied's share price finished all-square at 460p yesterday.

The rest of the drinks sector ran into early profit-taking but GEI International, the food group, was firm by 1p to a fresh peak of 149p on the basis of one-for-one.

Mr Michael Hale's appointment as managing director last year continues to filter through. The group is in better shape these days — which has revived talk that a bid from a consortium is on the way.

managed to close above its worst levels. Bass eased by 5p to £10.42. Grand Metropolitan, 4p to 590p. Scottish & Newcastle, 2p to 257p and Whitbread "A", 2p to 368p.

Elsewhere, leading blue chip industrialists succumbed to end-week profit-taking after their record-breaking run. Early



sentiment was aggravated by vague reports of a large US acquisition and cash-call in the offering by ICI which left the shares 8p easier at 1,513p.

British Telecom, still reflecting the current state of criticism which has been aimed at its service to the public, fell by 7.5p to 293p, while Hawker dropped by 1p to 600p as speculators grew tired, awaiting the talked-of bid from BTR, Pilkington, due to be sub-divided shortly, fell by 12p to 1,048p.

Share prices rallied from their lowest levels of the day, however, with the FT-SE 100 index closing down 14.7 points at 2,428.7 after earlier being 24 points off. The FT 30 share index ended 9.3 points lower at 1,916.9.

Gilt-edged stocks moved narrowly in thin trading, recouping earlier falls of 1/4 following a recovery in the pound, while awaiting news of fresh Government funding — which materialized at 3.30 pm in the shape of £1 billion of Treasury, 8 per cent, 1991, offered at 97.25. Investors will have to pay £20 down and the balance on August 24.

Shares of Morgan Grenfell, the beleaguered merchant bank, which dropped to a low of 360p in the wake of the Guinness and Geoffrey Collier affairs, moved above the original, 500p tender price for the first time since they were offered to the public in July last year.

The shares have been a firm market of late, boosted by the

Hill Samuel bid approach and the news that Shearson Lehman, the third largest US investment bank, has built up a near-3 per cent stake. Yesterday, they soared by another 42p to 529p on the announcement that Dewey Warren, the Lloyd's insurance broker controlled by Mr Robert Holmes & Court, had acquired a 5.19 per cent stake in the company.

Hill Samuel advanced by 9p to 689p, with dealers still bracing themselves for a 700p-a-share-plus agreed offer from the Union Bank of Switzerland next week.

Shares of Lord Weinstock's

also remarked that the shares were a "chart buy."

Also in the electrical sector, STC, the telecommunications and computer group, retreated by 10p to 319p on profit-taking. Thursday's announcement that I.T.T. the US conglomerate, is talking with investment banks in London and New York about the possible sale of its remaining 34 per cent stake in STC was dampened yesterday by analysts' forecasts that a corporate bidder for the STC shareholding seems unlikely — particularly as no one made a move for the stock as it was climbing from the 1985 low of 78p.

STC's recent management reshuffle — which brought in the former GEC Marconi chief, Mr Arthur Walsh, as chief executive — led to suggestions that it was about to bid 180p a share for rival Ferranti.

Bernard Matthews, the Norfolk poultry producer, bounded by 30p to a peak of 205p as bid speculation intensified. There has been talk for the past couple of weeks that a bid from Heinz, the big US tinne-food group, was on the way. Matthews already has trading links with Heinz, which distributes its turkey products in Canada.

WALL STREET

Dow back above 2,500 level in early trading

New York (Agencies) — Shares moved forcefully above the 2,500 level — as measured by the Dow Jones industrial average — in early trading yesterday. The Dow average was up by 12.92 points to 2,509.89.

Trading was active. Analysts explained that the market was being driven higher by higher-than-expected profit reports. Shares also gained on a rise in the dollar against the yen. Philip Morris rose by 3 to 96p after Thursday's increase of 2p. It plans to buy back 10 million of its own shares.

On Thursday, the Dow av-

erage closed 13.23 higher at a record 2,496.97 after briefly topping 2,500.

Higher US interest rates continue to weigh on housing starts and analysts do not expect any substantial improvement in the next few months. Housing starts in June fell by 0.7 per cent to a seasonally-adjusted annual rate of 1.59 million — almost exactly in line with the consensus estimate.

The second-quarter average of 1.61 million is lower than the figure of almost 1.8 million for the first.

AMR Corp	60%	58%	Firestone	44%	43%	Pepco	38%	36%
Astra Life	61%	62%	Fit Chicago	30%	30%	Phizer	71%	71%
Avaya Inc	59%	59%	Fit Int Engrs	58%	58%	Pharmacia	42%	41%
Avaya Software	59%	59%	Flint Hills	30%	30%	Pharmacia Ltd	40%	40%
Alcoa Inc	2%	2%	FT Washoe	38%	38%	Philco Pitti	18%	18%
Alis Inc	36%	37%	Ford Motor	10%	10%	Philips Int'l	24%	20%
AMR Hse Inc	41%	40%	GTE Corp	38%	38%	Playtex Corp	94%	95%
AMR Hse Inc	41%	40%	GTE Corp	100%	100%	Playtex Cos	94%	95%
Am Cynns	51%	50%	Gm Dynam	69%	69%	Pratt & G	77%	77%
Am Ede Pwr	27%	26%	Gem Electric	55%	55%	Royals Med	49%	48%
Am Ede Pwr	27%	26%	Gem Electric	55%	55%	Royals Med	49%	48%
Am Motors	4%	4%	Gem Motors	83%	84%	Scotch P	51%	50%
Am Motors	4%	4%	Gem Motors	83%	84%	Scotch P	51%	50%
Am Telpa	31%	30%	Genco	5%	5%	Schultz	49%	48%
Amoco Corp	87%	87%	Georgia Pac	41%	41%	Sci Socap	51%	50%
Amoco Corp	87%	87%	Georgia Pac	41%	41%	Sci Socap	51%	50%
American	32%	32%	Goodrich	53%	53%	Seas P	73%	73%
American	32%	32%	Goodrich	53%	53%	Seas P	73%	73%
Amgen Inc	36%	36%	Grain	51%	51%	Seas P	51%	51%
Amgen Inc	36%	36%	Grain	51%	51%	Seas P	51%	51%
Am Richd	97%	96%	Gould Inc	19%	19%	Singer	43%	41%
Am Richd	97%	96%	Gould Inc	19%	19%	Singer	43%	41%
Avon Prod	35%	34%	Graco Co	65%	65%	Smith Bar	64%	64%
Avon Prod	35%	34%	Graco Co	65%	65%	Smith Bar	64%	64%
Bank One	33%	33%	Griffin	41%	41%	Soc Sec Ad	30%	31%
Bank One	33%	33%	Griffin	41%	41%	Soc Sec Ad	30%	31%
Banker	11%	11%	Gumst	29%	30%	Sun Cal	3%	3%
Banker	11%	11%	Gumst	29%	30%	Sun Cal	3%	3%
Best Seal	19%	18%	Herc	47%	47%	Stent Dir	62%	62%
Best Seal	19%	18%	Herc	47%	47%	Stent Dir	62%	62%
Boston Busc	72%	71%	Hemlock Pl	63%	62%	Sun Comp	67%	67%
Boston Busc	72%	71%	Hemlock Pl	63%	62%	Sun Comp	67%	67%
Brazier	57%	53%	Homeywell	67%	69%	Tenn Inc	35%	33%
Brazier	57%	53%	Homeywell	67%	69%	Tenn Inc	35%	33%
Briggs & Warr	49%	49%	ITT Corp	61%	62%	Trivac	52%	51%
Briggs & Warr	49%	49%	ITT Corp	61%	62%	Trivac	52%	51%
Burl Ind	70%	70%	Inco Steel	20%	19%	Texas	49%	48%
Burl Ind	70%	70%	Inco Steel	20%	19%	Texas	49%	48%
Burl Int'l	61%	79%	Int'l Paper	16%	16%	Texas Inst	64%	63%
Burl Int'l	61%	79%	Int'l Paper	16%	16%	Texas Inst	64%	63%
Cme Eng	18%	18%	Inrg Bld	48%	48%	Texas Inst	64%	63%
Cme Eng	18%	18%	Inrg Bld	48%	48%	Texas Inst	64%	63%
Cmco Inc	53%	52%	K Mart	22%	22%	Trans Am	34%	34%
Cmco Inc	53%	52%	K Mart	22%	22%	Trans Am	34%	34%
Comptel Sp	63%	63%	Kamerschen	24%	24%	Trans Am	34%	34%
Comptel Sp	63%	63%	Kamerschen	24%	24%	Trans Am	34%	34%
Comptel Sp	63%	63%	Kamerschen	24%	24%	Trans Am	34%	34%
Caterpillar	59%	59%	Kimberly Corp	5%	5%	Unic Pac	79%	79%
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WALL STREET
back above 2,500
in early trading

مكتبة الأمل

Airline merger to prompt an inquiry on competition

By Colin Narborough

Government approval of the proposed merger between British Airways and British Caledonian would trigger a review of official policy governing competition between airlines, the Department of Transport said yesterday.

But a formal decision on whether to refer the £237 million deal to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission will only come after Sir Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, submits his recommendation, probably within the next six weeks.

In Whitehall, meanwhile, Sir Gordon's advice is considered unlikely to persuade Lord Young of Grafton, Secretary of State for Trade and In-

dustry, of the need to make a referral under the Fair Trading Act.

The Department of Trade and Industry declined to comment on press reports yesterday that suggested a decision against a referral had already been reached.

The OFT's recommendation will come - conveniently for the Government - after Parliament breaks for the summer recess next Friday, reducing the scope for opponents of the merger to make political capital out of Lord Young's decision.

In the event of a referral, the MMC normally has six months in which to produce its report, but the complex issues raised by the merger

could mean an even longer wait.

After making a statement on the link-up in the Lords on Thursday, Lord Young declined to be drawn on the implications for competition policy, and whether non-referral would run counter to specific policy on airlines.

But policy was spelled out just before the general election was called, when Mr Michael Spicer, the former Minister for Aviation, said in a Commons written reply that the Government remained committed to a "sound and competitive" airline industry. It opposed anti-competitive behaviour by either British or foreign airlines that affected this policy.

At the same time, he made clear that Britain had to have

the capability to face big international competition. The British civil aviation industry "should continue to include airlines strong enough to compete aggressively against foreign carriers," he said.

The need to create a British "mega-airline" to compete with the big US and Far Eastern operators is one of BA's main arguments for the B-Cal tie-up.

The review of airline policy, which would be the first since 1984, would look at all aspects of airport and competition policy. It would come against a radically changed background for the industry, as an airline competition issue has been raised on the scale of the latest merger plan for decades.

Nuclear power 'helps to cut cost'

The Government is not obsessed with the development of nuclear power to the exclusion of other sources of energy, Mr Michael Spicer, the Under-Secretary of State for Energy, said yesterday.

Nuclear energy had to play its part economically and competitively alongside other sources of energy and this would come in the foreseeable future from fossil fuels, he told a Confederation of British Industry conference on nuclear energy in London.

But Mr Spicer acknowledged that nuclear power made an important contribution in keeping electricity costs down.

The Central Electricity Generating Board estimated last year that electricity prices would have had to rise by 15 per cent if it had not had access to its nuclear stations.

Lord Marshall, the chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, told the conference that delays and lengthy planning inquiries for the next generation of nuclear power stations would hit our manufacturing output.

He said 90 per cent of the contracts for work on the new Sizewell B pressurized water reactor had been won by British companies. "In any civilized country, orders would be placed before the end of the year for the next PWR at Hinkley Point and for a third PWR 12 months later," he said.

"That is what we ought to do to have a proper manufacturing base." Instead, Lord Marshall said he would have to tell the "excellent" firm that had won the Sizewell contract to wait three years to find out it would receive any work.

Lord Marshall also gave a warning that protests from anti-nuclear groups were threatening Britain's electricity supplies. The Friends of the Earth's challenge to the Government's decision to give the go-ahead to Sizewell would be heard in the Appeal Court next week.

"If we have to go through this for all our power stations we should not worry about whether we have economic electricity, we will be worrying about whether we have electricity at all," he added.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Canary Wharf deal - sunrise or sunset?

The appearance of the Reichmann brothers, like a red sky, is often an omen. In 1977 in New York, their arrival as buyers for Uris, a New York property group which had fallen on very lean times, signalled the beginning of the end of the worst property bear market since the Thirties. They strode in where others had hesitated or looked away - including our own Guardian Royal Exchange, which could have participated in a deal where the equity came free - and snapped up eight buildings in Manhattan for \$320 million (\$50 million of it in cash and the rest as assumption of debt). If it was not the "biggest single best real estate transaction ever," as one US property man later sighed, it must come close: \$4 billion is now a conservative estimate of what those properties became worth, \$2 billion the amount the brothers have already realized.

With the Reichmanns now poised to put Canary Wharf back on the rails, we will have to wait and see whether their arrival on these shores heralds the end of the bull market, or is yet another new dawn for Docklands. Even with the present level of demand for office space in the City, the prospect of another 12 million sq ft of prime office space rising rapidly a short train ride from the Bank of England might give the property market pause for thought about future values. Those who say that 1973 cannot happen again because too many people remember 1973, include many who were not about in that fateful year.

If anyone can build Canary Wharf and fill it with tenants, it is the Reichmann brothers from Olympia & York. When the Japanese began to examine the possibility of expanding Tokyo's financial centre by building four islands in Tokyo Bay, they consulted Olympia & York's Development Ltd. "Perhaps they were just being courteous," suggested Mr Paul Reichmann, one of the three brothers who control the Canadian property giant.

Mr Reichmann, aged 57, and brothers Albert and Ralph, have built their Toronto company up from an importer of building materials in 1955 into Canada's third-largest corporation with three main arms - property, materials manufacturing and investments.

It is still run as a family business, with the three brothers in direct control of the group's main developments. Like many families, they do not like outsiders peering too deeply into their affairs. How much is O&Y worth? Mr Reich-

mann prefers not to speculate. Press reports of US\$20 billion he dismisses as guesswork.

O&Y's flagship development, Battery Park City, in New York, was regarded as a huge gamble at the end of the last decade. Today it houses the World Financial Centre, and American Express, Merrill Lynch, Dow Jones and Oppenheimer are among the financial institutions which have their headquarters in the architecturally acclaimed waterfront complex. It augurs well for Canary Wharf.

Enter John Gunn

Mercantile House had strayed from the path of virtue in many ways. Its forecast of £40 million profits for the year to last April, only slightly more than half the previous year's level, says it all. The way forward for a house that cannot make a headway in the most spectacular of bull markets is unclear indeed.

Enter John Gunn, chairman of British & Commonwealth and purchaser of Mercantile for £490 million. Mr Gunn does not fit into any neat pigeon-hole and certainly intends to forsake, for the time being, the mainstream securities businesses which proved so tough for Mercantile and others since Big Bang. His approach to building B&C will be to go for the low-risk areas such as fund management with Gartmore and the newcomer from Mercantile, Oppenheimer. As well as buying from Mercantile, the business of his choice, Gunn has an opportunity to show his dealing skills and it may well be that, if he is as good at selling businesses as he has been at buying them, they may reduce the net cost of Oppenheimer to very modest levels indeed.

Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank is being sold to Credit Lyonnais for £75 million, while the two high-quality money-broking operations might fetch £300 million to £350 million.

Gunn has set a course chosen deliberately to avoid a confrontation with the same juggernauts of the securities business which made life tough for Mercantile and would have made it tougher still. B&C will be a collection of niche businesses, seeking areas away from the mainstream. The City knows too well that there would have been far more casualties post-Big Bang but for the fair wind provided by the bull market. It, therefore, sees in Gunn someone likely to benefit both from his own good decisions and the bad ones of others.

Societies take £556m in June

By Peter Gartland, Family Money Editor

The latest figures from Britain's building societies published yesterday showed a rise in net receipts to £556 million in June.

Net receipts represent the difference between retail receipts and withdrawals. The June net receipt figure is up from the May total of £521 million and shows a considerable increase on the June 1986 figure of £177 million.

Mr Mark Boleat, the director-general of the Building Societies Association called the latest result a very creditable performance and said that despite competitive pressures, the societies had maintained a stable inflow of funds during the first six months of 1987.

Net new mortgage commitments of £3.4 billion in June were the highest this year while mortgage advances of £3.16 billion marked the first time in 1987 that this figure has exceeded £3 billion.

In recent years building societies have made use of the

wholesale money markets in addition to attracting savings from individual investors.

In June there was a net outflow of £42 million of wholesale money from the societies. Although this is the first time there has been a wholesale money outflow since February 1986, Mr Boleat says this is not significant.

Nevertheless, the societies are hoping to get permission to increase the amount of money they can raise from wholesale sources.

The Building Societies Act currently limits them to 20 per cent of the total money raised. Mr Tony Stoughton-Harris, the chairman of the BSA, said yesterday that he hoped the present limit would be raised to 30 per cent from January 1.

A detailed submission putting the case for greater access to the wholesale markets is being prepared for consideration in September by the Building Societies Commission.



Mark Boleat: looking for more money from the markets

GM Firth profits hit record £3m

Pretax profits at GM Firth, the Bradford steel stockholder, advanced by 25 per cent from £2.48 million to a record £3.10 million in the year to March 31. The rise was achieved despite a disappointing result from Porter Chadburn, Firth's 65 per cent-owned subsidiary.

Mr Ian Wasserman, the chairman, says he is confident of another substantial increase in profitability in the present year.

Turnover rose by 24 per cent from £50.05 million to £61.60 million in the past year. Tax increased from £893,000 to £1.08 million, leaving net profit up from £1.58 million to £2.02 million. Earnings per share improved from 4.36p to 5.68p.

The final dividend is raised from 0.55p to 1.0p, payable on

October 2, lifting the net total from 1.0p to 1.5p a share.

Mr Wasserman reported that pretax profits of Porter Chadburn dropped from £506,000 to £352,000.

Mr Wasserman added that the Charles Wade division, which had its first full year of trading, did not trade satisfactorily and changes were made at senior management level in January. There has been "a marked improvement in their profitability" since then, he said.

"Despite increasing price competition, record profits were achieved by the furnishing, flooring and fittings division. A useful contribution was made by the transport division and by the disposal of our property portfolio at Hove."

Dublin in tax-free securities offer

Dublin (Reuters) - The Irish government, eager to make tempting investment offers to the 900 foreign companies whose annual profits in Ireland total £1 billion (£900 million), is launching a tax-exempt securities scheme.

Mr Ray MacSharry, the finance minister, said foreign-owned companies in Ireland can now "have the choice and the opportunity of putting their surplus cash to work in Ireland."

The first issue will be on July 30 and the securities will take the form of notes sold through three banks - Allied Irish Banks, Bank of Ireland and Citibank.

The securities will be sold by tender and on the basis of direct offers submitted by the qualifying companies. The

notes will be interest bearing, issued at par and with a maturity of not less than one month.

The minimum denomination for the securities is £250,000 (£155,279) or the equivalent in punts. European currency units and other currencies and they must be held until maturity by the purchaser.

Mr MacSharry, explaining the liquidity terms, said there would be provision for early redemption of notes issued through the tender system of competitive bids.

Interest on the securities will be exempt from corporation tax, at present 10 per cent for foreign companies.

Foreign companies employ about 80,000 of Ireland's manufacturing workforce of 200,000.

TEMPUS

TSB could be star of Hogg show

Hogg Robinson Group may feel that TSB is behaving like a spoilsport at a party by sleeping in a 600p share bid and so threatening its plans, a long time in the making and up for consideration by shareholders at an extraordinary meeting next Monday week, to split itself in half.

But faced with a choice of cash in the hand - and at 600p too, when their shares not so long ago stood at 375p - or having to take out their cheque books and follow two separate shares, they could find the TSB offer tempting.

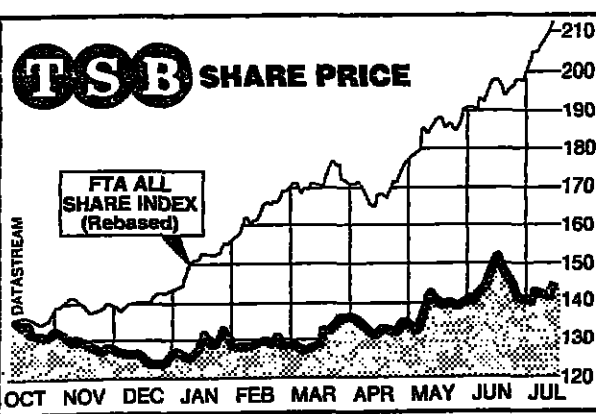
Given that Hogg Robinson is now on the defensive, and wanted, the prospects of a counter bid cannot be ruled out. If so, TSB could well come back with an even higher bid.

Hogg Robinson (without the insurance arm, due to be sold to Dewey Warren) appears to fit very nicely into TSB's game plan, and the group has the cash pile to bid for what it wants.

TSB shareholders, meanwhile, can only clap that their cash-rich group is still seen to be going out shopping - not just for the sake of it, but with the clear objective of diversifying assets. Any move away from Third World debt problems is to be welcomed. The recent purchase of Target Group is one example.

Nothing bores shareholders as much as a group with too much cash, and a spread away from banking activities (which account for 54 per cent of earnings at present) would give TSB the chance of being more widely appreciated for its non-banking interests.

Assuming Hogg Robinson does fall under TSB's control (taking it into travel, estate agency, transport and financial services), there is a chance that the share price



will move out of its rut, although that could prove a slow process.

Hogg Robinson shareholders have an interesting week ahead, and yesterday the price moved well ahead of 600p, suggesting there could be some gatecrashers about. One way or another, it is still going to be some party.

Banking

During the next few weeks the banking world will know just how the other half of our top clearing banks has decided to tackle the problem of its Third World loan books. NatWest, which has provided an extra £466 million, and Midland (an additional £916 million) have faced reality. Barclays and Lloyds have kept shareholders waiting until the half-time profits statement.

Lloyds has the heaviest exposure, thanks to its historically strong ties with Latin America. Analysts differ in their estimates of just how far Lloyds will go towards making a full provision of 25 per cent to 30 per cent of its Third World debt. But at Hoare Govett, the broker, it is thought that close on £850 million is needed to do the job fully.

Will Lloyds follow the

Way Barclays to provide at the same rate it would have to charge £400 million or more, if South African lending was included. All told this would raise the level of provision for extra less developed countries' debt to £2.5 billion by the four leading clearing banks.

With the pain behind them, the clearers should be able to look forward to a re-rating.

Park Food

As long as Christmas remains on the calendar and is not privatized, the future looks pretty rosy for the country's largest supplier of Yuletide hampers, the Merseyside Park Food Group.

The company sells more than one million hampers, costing between £25 and £150 each. The money is collected in instalments by the company's well-trained band of

45,000 agents and, although competitors have moved in on the business, Park Food remains the pre-eminent force.

The full-year results, announced yesterday, show that pretax profits went up 15 per cent to £2.6 million. This was what most City analysts, having watched the company's determined growth since its arrival on the market in 1983, had been expecting.

The share price managed a 5p improvement to 308p in a tight market because of the family's 70 per cent controlling stake.

Earnings per share were up 33 per cent at 16.50p and a final dividend of 3.25p makes a total of 4.8p for the year, a rise of 14 per cent.

Not all Park Food's other ventures are running quite as smoothly as the hamper business. Bee & Cee Foods lost money on its frozen food distribution activities last year. But the problem areas have been shut down, with the rest being merged with the Everfresh distribution company, acquired from Guinness.

Millstone, which sells pre-packed sandwiches to large high street stores, is still not achieving satisfactory results while Matchless, the food powder company, has seen an increase in volume although there is still more to aim for.

On the non-food side, the company is pleased with the performance of Jetlag, the airline travel kit supplier, and Lamb & Watt, the wine merchants.



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Spot market commentary:
Dry cargo index:
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THIRD MARK

Spot market commentary:
Dry cargo index:
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Portfolio
—Gold—

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000 Claims required for +58 points	WEEKLY DIVIDEND £8,000 Claims required for +246 points
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Claimants should ring 0254-532772

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Figure 1. The effect of the number of trials on the number of correct responses. The number of correct responses was significantly higher than the number of incorrect responses in all cases. Error bars represent the standard error of the mean.

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Convertibles provide a higher level of income than the underlying shares which they represent.

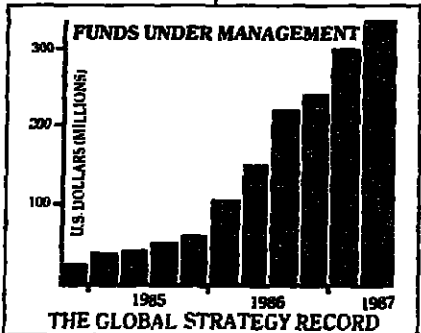
Guinness Flight's Global Convertible Fund will seek opportunities to invest in convertibles worldwide and is backed by independent currency management to protect and maximise profits wherever they occur. Convertibles have been the province of the specialist investor - until now. But the market is expanding rapidly and the individual investor's interest is becoming justifiably stronger.

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FAMILY MONEY / INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

KEY RATES

	Nominal rate	Compounded return at tax rates	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS					
Ordinary Deposit A/c	3.00	3.02	2.28	1.85	1 min 0-7 day
National Girobank	3.00	3.02	2.28	1.85	1 min 7 day
Fixed Term Deposits:					
National Westminster	6.00	6.00	4.52	3.29	10,000-24,999
" " "	6.13	6.13	4.82	3.36	10,000-24,999
" " "	6.00	6.00	4.52	3.29	10,000-24,999
" " "	5.55	5.55	4.18	3.04	10,000-24,999
" " "	5.64	5.64	4.25	3.08	10,000-24,999
" " "	5.74	5.74	4.32	3.15	10,000-24,999
BUILDING SOCIETIES					
Ordinary A/c	5.00	5.06	3.81	2.77	1 min
Britannia	7.15	7.15	5.39	3.92	250 min
Bradford & Bingley	7.50	7.50	5.85	4.11	1,000 min
Cheltenham & Gloucester	7.75	7.75	5.84	4.25	5,000 min
Nationwide Non-Resid	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	1 min

MONEY FUNDS					
Aitken Hume Monthly Inc	6.21	6.39	4.81	3.50	1,000 min
Allied Arab HICA	6.58	6.79	5.54	3.72	3,000 min
Bank of Scotland	6.09	6.27	4.72	3.44	2,500 min
Barclays High Rate Dep	6.00	6.14	4.63	3.36	1,000 min
" " "	6.25	6.40	4.82	3.51	10,000 min
Britannia High Interest	6.21	6.39	4.81	3.50	2,500 min
Citibank Money Mkt Plus	6.00	6.17	4.65	3.38	2,000 min
HFC Trust & Savings	7.00	7.00	5.00	3.75	5,000 min
Headland Cheque A/c	6.09	6.27	4.72	3.44	2,500 min
L & G High Int Deposit	6.38	6.48	4.88	3.55	1,000 min
Lloyds Investment A/c	6.90	6.90	5.20	3.78	5,000 min
Lloyds HICA	5.50	5.61	4.23	3.07	1,000 min
M&G HICA	6.21	6.39	4.81	3.50	2,500 min
Midland HICA	6.00	6.14	4.63	3.36	2,000 min
" " "	6.20	6.35	4.78	3.48	10,000 min
" " "	6.27	6.42	4.72	3.48	2,000 min
Net West Special Reserve	6.25	6.40	4.82	3.51	10,000 min
Oppenheimer Money Mgmt	6.40	6.56	4.78	3.59	1,000 min
" " "	6.49	6.65	5.01	3.64	10,000 min
Phillips & Drew HICA	6.68	6.85	5.16	3.75	2,500 min
Provincial Trust Chq A/c	6.77	6.99	5.27	3.89	1,000 min
Royal Bk of Scot Prem A/c	5.92	6.05	4.56	3.32	2,500 min
S & P Classic	6.11	6.28	4.74	3.45	500 min
Swire Wegg	6.21	6.39	4.81	3.50	2,500 min
" " "	6.40	6.59	4.97	3.61	10,000 min
Tyndall Call	6.36	6.51	4.90	3.57	2,500 min
Tyndall 7-day	6.35	6.39	4.81	3.50	2,500 min
UDT 7-day	6.21	6.36	4.79	3.48	5,000 min
Western Trust	6.40	6.59	4.97	3.61	2,500 min

NATIONAL SAVINGS					
Ordinary A/c	6.00	6.17	4.65	3.38	1-10,000
Investment A/c	10.00	7.30	5.50	4.00	5-100,000
Income Bond	10.50	7.87	5.78	4.20	2,000-100,000
Deposit Bond	10.50	7.87	5.78	4.20	100-100,000
Indexed Income Bond	8.00	5.84	4.40	3.20	5,000-100,000
3rd Issue Cert	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	25-1,000
Yearly Plan	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	20-200/mth
Guinness Flight Index Jun	101.9	101.9	101.9	101.9	

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS					
FPS (Management) Ltd	7.50	7.50	6.15	5.03	1,000 min
FPS (Management) Ltd	7.50	7.50	6.15	5.03	1,000 min
Premium Life	7.60	7.60	6.23	5.09	1,000 min
Premium Life	7.60	7.60	6.23	5.09	1,000 min
Blackhorse Assurance	6.25	6.25	6.77	5.53	2,000 min

LOCAL AUTHORITY TOWN HALL BONDS					
Northampton	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.74	500 min
Kirkcaldy	6.75	6.75	5.09	3.70	500 min
Kirkcaldy	6.75	6.75	5.09	3.70	500 min
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.74	500 min
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.74	500 min
Northampton	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.74	500 min
Northampton	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.74	500 min
Bristol	6.50	6.50	4.90	3.58	1,000 min
Bristol	6.50	6.50	4.90	3.58	1,000 min
Bristol	6.50	6.50	4.90	3.58	1,000 min

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS					
Sterling	7.96	7.96	7.96	7.96	7 day
US Dollar	5.96	5.96	5.96	5.96	7 day
Yen	2.67	2.67	2.67	2.67	7 day
D Mark	2.67	2.67	2.67	2.67	7 day
French Franc	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	7 day
Swiss Franc	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	7 day

* Interest taxable, paid gross. † Tax free. ‡ Higher returns for larger balances. (†) All major banks, other banks may offer different rates. (‡) Societies chosen on high street premises, higher rates can be obtained from smaller societies. (†) Contact Chase de Vere Moneyline 01-404 5786. (‡) 2 per cent for balances below £500. First £70 of interest tax-free. (†) Instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less. (‡) Increased at end of year in line with inflation. (†) Additional holdings up to £5,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates. (‡) Liable to variation. (†) Charge for instant access. Research: Deborah Benn

Retail Prices Index

(June '86 to June '87) +4.2

Mortgage rate

11.25%

Bank base rate

9%

Bank prime overdraft rate

12%-17% APR

Personal loan rate*

19.6% APR

Credit card rate*

23.8% APR

Hire purchase rate*

26% APR

Bank deposit account

3%

Building society ordinary account

5%

High-interest cheque account*

6.80%

Holiday exchange rates*

Spanish peseta 200

French franc 9.76

Greek drachma 216

Italian lira 2120

* Typical rates

† £1,000 over 12 months

APR = annual percentage rate

FUND OFFERS

Guinness Flight page 28

MIM Britannia page 29

Fidelity pages 29, 33 and 36

Gartmore page 30

Perpetual page 31

Scholar page 32

Schroders page 33

M&G page 34

Abbey Life page 35

Mercury page 36

Sun Life page 36

Commercial Union page 37

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN 9.50%

Adam & Company 9.00%

BCCI 9.00%

Consolidated Crds 9.00%

Co-operative Bank 9.00%

C. Hoare & Co 9.00%

Hong Kong & Shanghai 9.00%

Lloyds Bank 9.00%

Nat Westminster 9.00%

Royal Bank of Scotland 9.00%

TSB 9.00%

Globe Bank NA 9.00%

UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

Bid	Offer	Chng	%	Bid	Offer	Chng	%	Bid	Offer	Chng	%	Bid	Offer	Chng	%	Bid	Offer	Chng	%	Bid	Offer	Chng	%	Bid	Offer	Chng	%	Bid	Offer	Chng	%
ACTUAL LIFE INSURANCE																															
Adm. Life Ins																															
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Edited by Peter Gariland

FAMILY MONEY/1

THIS WEEK

- Dissatisfied customers..... 1
- Foreign exchange dealing..... 2
- Mortgage fraud..... 3
- The strongroom robbery..... 4
- Share-grading after Big Bang..... 4
- Aids and life insurance..... 5
- Your duty-free allowances..... 5
- UK growth funds..... 6 and 7
- How capital gains tax affects property sales..... 8

NatWest repeats offer for BAA

National Westminster is to offer the opportunity of immediate payment on the sale of BAA shares in 245 of its branches up and down the country. The service was first offered for British Gas shares. It has subsequently been used for British Airways and Rolls-Royce.

The service for BAA will be available from July 28 for the bank's customers and non-customers, on production of an allotment letter. Non-customers will need to produce identification.

The scale of commission for BAA will be 1.5 per cent on deals up to £5,000 and 1 per cent on the next £7,000, with a minimum charge of £15.

UK investment trusts' 66%

Latest figures from the Association of Investment Trust Companies show that trusts specializing in the UK achieved average growth of 66 per cent over the 12 months to June 30. The average growth for commodity and energy investment trusts over the same period was 61.6 per cent and 59.2 per cent for investment trusts specializing in smaller companies.

The worst-performing sector over the year was North America, which averaged 20.7 per cent growth.

Guinness double

Guinness Flight are launching two new Guernsey-based funds this weekend - high income and convertible. The Global High Income Fund is aimed at generating a high level of income from high-yielding fixed interest stocks throughout the world. The Global Convertible Fund also intends to take advantage of high yields. Both the funds have a minimum investment of £1,000.

Interest at 9%

The Norwich and Peterborough Building Society is increasing the interest rate paid for investments of more than £25,000 in its Premier Plus Account to 9 per cent net yearly, 12.33 per cent gross. The new rate incorporates a 4 per cent differential above the basic share rate, guaranteed for one year.

A barrister's battle

You are not at home when a new television or a suite of furniture is delivered, but a neighbour or a builder who is working for you signs the delivery note. What are your rights when you discover later that the goods are defective? PETER GARILAND explains a disturbing case

When David Ellis and his wife Michele were making plans to move into their north London house last year they were prepared for all the usual hassles - mortgage finance, chains of buyers and sellers, insurance, surveys and so on.

What Mr Ellis was not prepared for was a big headache over a £150 shower door. It is a dispute that has involved him in endless correspondence.

Now, more than 12 months after the start of the saga, all Mr Ellis has to show for his efforts is a thick file of papers and a clear sense of frustration mixed with injustice.

Mr Ellis's story is one that most people have experienced in one way or another. What it demonstrates is the apparent quite unsatisfactory nature of the existing law but how, in spite of this, consumers may well have a way of protecting themselves.

The story began in May 1986 when a shower door ordered by Mr Ellis and paid for with his credit card was delivered to his new home, into which he was shortly to move. Builders working on site for Mr Ellis took delivery of the shower door and signed the delivery note, but did not open the package to examine the contents.

Customer was accused of 'taking the mickey'

Small print on the delivery note read: "Please check that the goods are received by you in good condition and once you agree that this is so, please sign below."

Later that same day the builders telephoned Mr Ellis at his office in the City of London and he asked them to open the box. What they say they found was a shower door frame but no glass, no handles and no instructions.

On learning of this, Mr Ellis contacted the supplier, a major distributor of bathroom products, and the following Sunday he received a visit from the managing director. The visit turned out to be a waste of Mr Ellis's time.

His builders were accused of breaking and removing the glass from the shower door and Mr Ellis was then accused of "taking the mickey" because of his claim.

What was even more bizarre than the visit was the arrival the following week of a letter from the supplier threatening legal action against Mr Ellis on unspecified grounds.

Realizing he was getting nowhere fast, Mr Ellis contacted the credit card company which, under legislation passed in 1974, is responsible with the retailer for the proper supply of goods. Mr Ellis prefers not to have the credit card company identified.

An official expressed sympathy but said there was nothing the credit card company could do because the builder had signed the delivery note without opening the package to check that the shower door was received in good condition.

In desperation, Mr Ellis contacted *The Times*, and we

discussed the problem with the Consumers' Association.

The association's view was that Mr Ellis was entitled to receive a shower door of "merchantable quality" and one that was "fit for its purpose".

The association thought that the fact that the builder had signed on Mr Ellis's behalf was of little consequence because legally the supplier could not exclude his liability.

With this encouragement and with a written statement by the builder confirming that there was no glass in the shower door when he inspected it, Mr Ellis decided to detail his case in writing to the credit card company.

Among the legislative weapons with which Mr Ellis armed himself was the Unfair Contract Terms Act, the Sale of Goods Act, and the Consumer Credit Act, plus the common law of England. Mr Ellis also holds law degrees and qualified as a barrister in 1980.

Despite all this, Mr Ellis succeeded only in extracting from the credit card group an eloquent statement that unfortunately it could not help.

The bottom line remains that Mr Ellis is £150 out of pocket because the supplier is adamant that the shower door could not possibly have been delivered without the glass and the builder is equally adamant that the door was delivered minus the glass.

Meanwhile, the credit card group is effectively saying: "It's one man's story against another's."

For the sake of £150 the supplier has not only alienated Mr Ellis but probably ensured that he will get no business from any of Mr Ellis's acquaintances.

The problem for the credit card group is of a different nature but the stakes are perhaps higher.

It is no doubt fully aware that if legal responsibility as defined in the Consumer Credit Act 1974 is accepted in this type of case, it could open the floodgates for claims from any of its customers who might complain about receipt of virtually anything that is faulty and has not been fully inspected on delivery - from a shower door through a vacuum cleaner to a disappointing case of wine.

But the fears of retailers and credit card companies are of no comfort to Mr Ellis and thousands of others who, every day of the week, have goods delivered to their home without the opportunity of inspecting them.

Justice seems to demand that receipt of goods by a builder or anyone else on the premises should not preclude the customer's subsequent right of complaint following a thorough inspection of the goods being bought.

Ombudsman arbitration service is an alternative

The fact that this right appears to be side-stepped so easily goes entirely against the spirit of the consumer protection legislation enacted in recent years.

There is clearly a case here for the law to be crystallized. As far as seeking justice is concerned there is the possibility of a claim using the small claims procedure in the county court.

The alternative might be to set up an ombudsman arbitration service for consumer durables and residential fixtures and fittings.

Such services have become fashionable in the financial services world where there are



Customers who weren't considered right: Mr and Mrs Ellis

now ombudsman arrangements for insurance companies, banks and building societies.

Until either the law is changed or an effective arbitration service is set up, consumers can take a couple of simple precautions on receiving goods themselves or having them received on their

behalf by, say, a builder or house cleaner.

One precaution is to write the words "Signed but not checked" on the delivery note. Another could be to hang a sign outside the front door clearly stating that no builders or workers at the house have the authority to inspect the goods on delivery.

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Radio call for debt counselling

The Radio 4 programme *You and Yours* has launched a campaign to persuade consumer lenders to finance a debt counselling scheme. The idea is based on American experience whereby debt counselling services are financed by commission deducted from debt recovery.

The organizers of a scheme that *You and Yours* investigated in Pittsburgh found that consumer lenders were quite willing to support debt counselling on the grounds that they much preferred to recover debts minus a commission than no debts at all. The Finance Houses Association (FHA) has expressed interest in supporting the *You and Yours* initiative.

Meanwhile the FHA this week launched a code of practice designed to protect the rights of people buying goods on credit.

Finance houses' loans to consumers include hire purchase for purchasers of cars and other consumer durables as well as personal loans for home improvement. Finance houses are also active in the second mortgage market.

The code has been prompted by the rapid rise in consumer credit and the problems of bad debts. It requires finance houses to ensure that debt collection procedures conform to the highest ethical standards and to encourage consumers in financial difficulty to report the problem immediately to the lender.

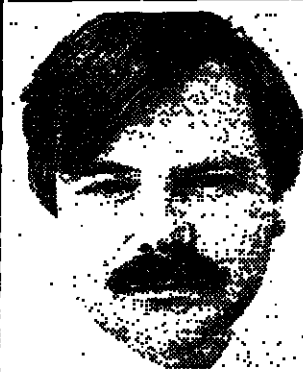
The code urges lenders to ensure that advertisements or agreements

relating to loans secured on consumers' homes contain clear statements to that effect. The code does not cover the rate of interest that a lender may charge. The FHA says this is a commercial matter for individual lenders.

The code has been welcomed by the Government and by the Office of Fair Trading.

The £500 million agreed takeover of Mercantile House by British & Commonwealth will have no immediate effect on investors in the 10 Oppenheimer unit trusts which form part of Mercantile's investment management.

This view is stressed by Paul Myrers, chairman of Garmore Fund Managers (part of British & Commonwealth), who will take over responsibility for the Oppenheimer funds. Mr Myrers says that in the short term the Oppenheimer funds will continue to be run by the same managers. Over a longer period there will undoubtedly be a case for merging some of the Oppenheimer funds into the 22 Garmore funds, where there is a duplication of investment aims.



Trevor Cass: "They're insecure"

How forex dealers swing your pound

Currency rates affect both the cost of your holiday and the value of overseas investments, writes John Roberts.

Exchange rates can even change during a two-week holiday by as much as they used to change in a year. And, of course, fluctuations in cur-

rency rates can affect the price of an overseas unit trust, the value of an overseas timeshare and the performance of currency funds.

Currencies move, one to another, out of all proportion to the changing patterns of trade between countries. So how much your holiday pound will buy, how much your overseas investments are worth, and — less obviously — the level of your mortgage payments (because interest rates may be raised to defend the pound) appear to depend on the activities of young men paid reputedly enviable salaries for lightning arithmetic shouted down the telephone.

Who are the foreign exchange dealers? What are they really like?

"You've got to be a character to succeed," says Trevor Cass, in charge of foreign exchange dealing at Barclays Bank. "Foreign exchange dealers come from all walks of life, from public school to council school. They're not intellectuals and usually not university-educated."

Mr Cass himself left Westcliff High School in Essex after one of the grammar school's two sixth-form years. But wherever they come from, the forex dealers have certain traits in common.

Mr Cass explains: "It's not just that they're hungry and ambitious, a bit cynical and quite pragmatic, but also that while an intellectual will be very analytical, forex dealers know that by the time they've weighed the pros and cons it's irrelevant. The market has gone away from you."

"So the dealers have to be able to see clearly through the fog of confusing information and cut straight through to the market truths."

"And all the guys on the dealing desk need to feel they're good. They need to feel they're the best. They need their egos massaged. They lap up praise. They're insecure. Each day they come in they have to prove themselves all over again."

"But above all else in this business they have to be honest. Yes, I know that sounds obvious, but it's not just honesty in dealing with the bank's money. You have to be honest with yourself here. If you get it wrong you've got to be able to admit, 'I mucked it up. I've got to trade myself out of this position'. You can't kid yourself because all you'll do is make even bigger losses."

Mr Cass believes that the biggest misconception the public have about foreign exchange dealing is that it is always profitable. "People don't realize how fast the market moves," he says. "The pound can move up or down a cent against the dollar within two hours. In a deal worth £2 million, that's a lot of money you're making. Or losing."

The coming together of Garmore and Oppenheimer unit trusts will contribute towards the creation of one of the 10 biggest unit trusts and mutual fund groups, not only in the UK but also globally. Apart from the impressive size of the deal, Oppenheimer unit trust investors will be as much interested in whether Garmore's influence will improve Oppenheimer's appalling administration and slow payment to investors who redeem units.

Two new books on the Business Expansion Scheme, which gives generous tax breaks to investors, have been published. Both are aimed more at the business end of the market — accountants and solicitors and people who may be considering setting up a BES company.

Opportunities under the BES is written by the tax expert Patrick Way, a partner at solicitors Nabarro Nathanson. It is written in a very accessible and authoritative question-and-answer form. It is published by Longman at £17.50.

A second edition of the excellent Charrack book on the Business Expansion Scheme, written by the chartered accountant Brian Arncliffe, was published this week. It is published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants and costs £14.95.

The Stock Exchange is setting up a club for small investors. They will pay £15 a year to belong to the Stock Exchange Investors' Club and will receive a quarterly newsletter giving up-to-date advice on a whole range of investment affairs. The Stock Exchange insisted this week that the club will not be telling investors which shares to buy.



But it will be organizing special events for members, such as meetings with stockbrokers. Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the International Stock Exchange, said: "We have always supported the principle of wider share ownership. We now want to remove the mystique of share ownership, to spread the word about how to buy and sell shares, and to help people to learn more of the way in which investment works."

For full details about the club, write to The Wider Share Ownership Unit, The International Stock Exchange, London EC2N 1HP.

A new unit-linked life company plans to start business in the UK next month.

Interlife Assurance will be financed by insurance groups from Greece, West Germany and Sweden that have invested a total of £5 million as share capital. Interlife will be run by two former Skandia Life directors.

Interlife will offer a range of protection, savings and pension plans both in the UK and later in Europe. Investment managers will be Kleinwort Greaves.



Deciding the fortunes of your money: dealers in the City

Microsecond reflexes in mental arithmetic are also apparently a myth. A forex dealer has to be comfortable with figures but relies on electronic machinery for actual calculations.

An essential asset is stamina. Mr Cass and his team begin work at 7am. They finish somewhere around 6pm but any dealer of consequence has authority to deal from home, and does.

"You have to be on top of this job," Mr Cass explains. "If something is happening in Australia in the middle of the night here, you've got to know about it and be ready to deal. No good waiting until the next morning."

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Some of the choices are not always obvious. Naturally the buoyant Hong Kong market is currently the largest single represented market and accounts for 23.6% of the portfolio, but 3.8% is invested in Taiwan and 1.6% in China itself. Singapore is one of the top performing markets this year and accounts for 4% of the portfolio. The Latin American countries also offer interesting investment opportunities and 4.3% is invested there.

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Garmore

*Source: BIC Opal. Offer to offer net income reinvested. 16th July 1987.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Applications will be acknowledged and enquiries will be forwarded within 10 working days. You can view units in a 10p trial pack at no cost from the minimum bid price over any business day and unit holders can receive a free trial pack on request.

The offer price of units on 16th July 1987 was 33p and the estimated current gross price is 43p. Units can be bought at the current date after prices. Prices and yields are quoted in sterling unless otherwise stated. The Trust is managed and administered by a Trust Deed dated 24th January 1987 and authorised by the Department of Trade and Industry.

The income of the fund is distributed by the Trustees on the 31st May the first payment being 31st May 1988 together with certificates for unitholders. Tax credits, which may be reclaimed from the Inland Revenue by those entitled to do so.

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Why the insurers are wary

CLAIMS

The Safe Deposit Centre in Knightsbridge offers its clients "the ultimate protection" for their valuables, according to the company's brochure.

Last weekend the ultimate protection was clearly no match for a sawn-off shotgun.

And such is the nature of safe deposits that no one will ever know exactly how much was stolen.

A spokesman for one large insurance company said: "It's a very dicey area, this. The police know too well that safe deposit boxes are often used to hide ill-gotten gains. So you will never get everyone to come forward."

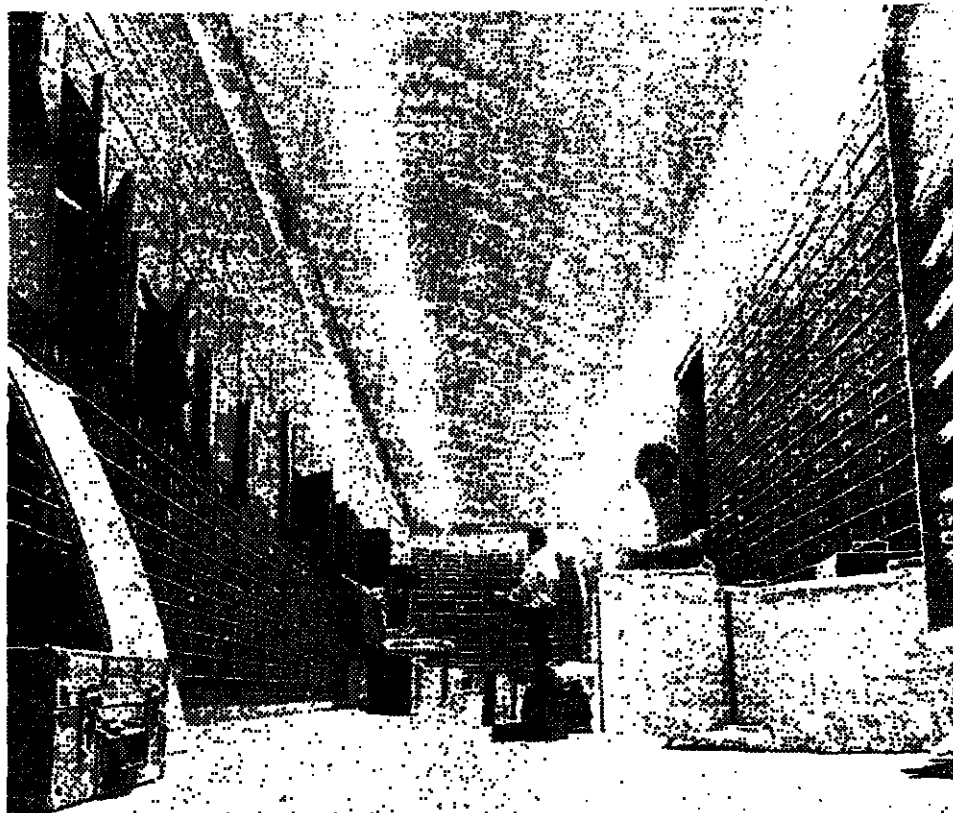
The insurance companies have always been a little wary of covering safe deposit centres because they are effectively being asked to insure something they know absolutely nothing about.

The centre at Knightsbridge was unusual in that it offered a package to clients that included £25,000 worth of insurance, arranged through a Lloyd's of London broker.

"Your insurance costs slashed," said the brochure. But unless they made their own insurance arrangements, some of the victims of this robbery must still face heavy losses.

Although a bank is liable if it is robbed of its normal over-the-counter cash deposits, it bears no such liability for safe deposits, where the depositor retains ownership and is solely responsible for insurance.

The major commercial insurers are naturally reluctant to get involved in this area because it leaves them open to fraudulent claims. If the depositor is under no obligation to disclose the contents of the box, how does the



Aftermath of the Knightsbridge raid: The full damage to the depositors may never be known

insurer establish what was in there to settle a claim?

One insurance company claims man comments: "All they would have to do is produce a receipt for a particular item and the insurance

Depositor must organize cover

company would have to pay their claim."

For the vast majority of people who use safe deposit boxes, the one practical method of insuring precious items is to extend their house contents policy to include jewellery. For example, on an all-risks basis.

Policyholders will normally be given a substantial discount if the valuables are to be kept in a bank safe or a safe deposit box. But if the jewels are taken out of the box to be worn at a party, and they are lost or stolen, the insurance company would meet the claim.

National Westminster, Barclays and Midland banks all have safe deposit centres, but because it is the depositor's responsibility to organize his own insurance, they have no indication of how many of their clients are actually insured.

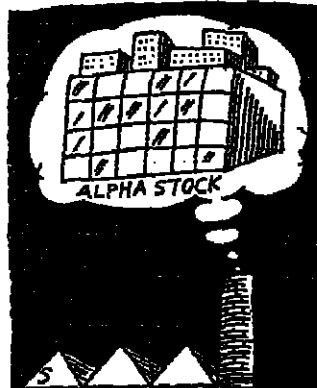
Lloyds Bank, whose Holborn strongroom was robbed of an estimated £50 million in 1982, no longer offers a safe

deposit service. Asked whether the robbery at Knightsbridge would cause them to review their security, the banks were understandably non-committal, except to say that the matter was under constant review.

The Association of British Insurers says that the raid at Knightsbridge is unlikely to have any effect on premiums for safe deposit boxes, because some of the boxes will have been insured by foreign insurance companies and others will not have been insured at all over and above the blanket cover provided by the safe deposit company.

Richard Newell

Letters, status symbols of your stocks



A whole new set of incomprehensible terms and classifications emerged with Big Bang, making it harder than usual to interpret the titbits of information seeping out of the Square Mile.

One such series is the classification of shares into Alpha, Beta, Gamma and Delta stocks. But this merely refers to the share's status and the degree of disclosure required after every market transaction.

The ranking is determined partly on market capitalization but, more importantly, on the number of market-makers making prices - quoting buying and selling prices on a regular basis at which it is possible to deal.

The alphabetical classifications also influence the number of shares it is possible to buy at one time and the overall level of trading activity.

One aim behind the move to deregulate the City was to increase the amount of investor protection. Before Big Bang, it was difficult, if not impossible, for investors to establish whether their "trade" had been carried out at the best available price. Being told that "my word is my bond" provided little comfort to those who felt they had received a poor service.

In terms of improving the market's reputation and increasing investors' confidence, therefore, the more shares on which full disclosure is required, the better.

To be an Alpha stock is the dream of most up-and-coming companies. To achieve this, quarterly turnover needs to be more than £100 million and market capitalization at least £255 million. At the time of Big Bang, 10 market-makers were required but this has been reduced to eight.

Full disclosure is demanded for Alpha stocks so that the price of every deal is recorded on a ticker-tape within four minutes of being struck. A running total of volume in every share is updated throughout the day.

Whether the shares were bought or sold is omitted, but the information enables both the other market-makers and the investors to keep in touch with the market's movements.

Shares involved in contested take-over bids are conferred

with temporary Alpha stock status, but even so the category has grown fast since Big Bang - the number included is up from 62 to 104.

Those who do not make the grade receive the Beta label. Four out of the minimum six market-makers must be prepared to deal definitely at the price and size indicated on their SEAO (Stock Exchange Automated Quotations) but the trades and their details do not have to be recorded publicly on a ticker-tape. Volume figures are available the next day, however. The category has swollen from 427 at Big Bang to 543 now.

The main difference between Beta and Gamma stocks is that the requisite two market-makers have to quote only indicative prices in the minimum 1,000 shares. However, if a quote for a larger number of shares is made, this is immediately deemed to be a firm price. About 1,500 securities fall into this category.

The stocks with which the unsuspicious investor must take the greatest care are those with a Delta classification. They need only one market-maker but are not quoted on SEAO. Dealing is done by negotiation, often with little way of establishing whether the price being suggested is fair. Around 2,200 securities have a Delta classification.

Full disclosure has had benefits

Shares can move up from one category to the other if they attract additional market-makers and vice versa. It is in the investors' interests, however, for an increasing number of shares to be classified as Alpha or, at worst, Beta, as this will lead to their being better protected.

Before Big Bang, many prospective market-makers feared that classifying shares in this way would dampen traders' enthusiasm and depress volume. But on the contrary, full disclosure appears to have made the market operate more smoothly while removing the image that effective trading on the Stock Exchange is the preserve of a select few.

Alexandra Jackson

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**OPAL Statistics, June 1987.

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Aids, the new risk factor

INSURANCE

Dr Tom Waddell, a homosexual American, died this week at the age of 49. Like thousands of other fun-loving American males, he was a victim of Aids.

Unlike his compatriots, however, Dr Waddell — a former Olympic athlete who founded the Gay Games — was the sort of homosexual who puts the life insurance industry into a cold sweat. He was married.

It is not known whether Dr Waddell had a life insurance policy. But the very fact that he was married meant that, in Britain, he would have escaped the more searching inquiries of actuaries and underwriters.

Since July 1986, all British insurance companies have included a question about Aids on their proposal forms.

Last week, the Guardian Royal Exchange went one step further. It produced a supplementary questionnaire that all single men aged between 18 and 65 will have to complete if they want the company to write a policy.

'We're not concerned with lifestyles'

The question asks whether they belong to any of the high-risk Aids groups and whether they have ever sought advice or treatment for Aids, an Aids-related condition or any sexually transmitted disease, including hepatitis B.

GRE is the first company to request such information directly from potential policyholders, although Mercantile & General, a company that provides insurance for insurers but does not deal directly with the public, has been asking client companies some pertinent questions for weeks.

Significantly, perhaps, GRE has a joint venture in the United States, where Aids has cut a costly swathe through wealthy and often well insured gay communities, especially on the West Coast.



Andrew O'Leary: "few frauds"



Geoffrey Nunn: "sensible"

The company is at pains to point out that it is not passing a moral judgment on homosexuals. Geoffrey Nunn, the chief actuary, says: "We are not concerned with a person's lifestyle. Our inquiries are motivated by commercial considerations. It is a case of taking sensible action now to protect the interests of all policyholders."

GRE insists that applications from high-risk groups will not necessarily be rejected. But homosexuals have assumed, probably correctly, that life cover will be increasingly difficult to acquire.

Although only a handful of people have refused to answer the specific Aids questions introduced since last July, there are signs that homosexuals have learned to tailor their replies.

Non-disclosure would, of course, provide grounds for an insurer to declare a policy null and void. But, as Robert Harman, of insurance company National Provident Institution, observes, it is extremely difficult to prove non-disclosure.

"The insurance industry depends on trust," he said, "and we simply don't know whether a person is telling the truth. But, by asking a question, we place the onus on the person

applying for cover to answer it honestly. If the information turns out to be incorrect, or the applicant has withheld information, that would be a breach of trust and the policy could well be declared null and void."

NPI has rejected very few applications since the question about Aids was introduced. But it has noted that some applications have been withdrawn as the company pursued its inquiries.

This has given rise to suggestions that Aids victims — encouraged by gay rights groups and, in some cases, by less than honest brokers — are beginning to play the insurance market.

Although evidence is hard to come by, the suspicion is that high-risk groups are applying to several companies simultaneously for small amounts of cover. This would allow them to be circumspect about their health and, most importantly, avoid inquiries that might lead to a medical examination.

Andrew O'Leary, chief actuary of Clerical Medical, thinks the industry might have to act jointly on simultaneous submissions.

"We know it has been happening," he said, "and, of course, it means that some-

body can buy life insurance without necessarily having to lie. If they don't actually make a false statement on the proposal form, it will be difficult to have that policy declared null and void. Fortunately, the number of people who make fraudulent applications is still very small."

The Association of British Insurers is sceptical about co-operation within the industry. "There are millions of policies written every year," says John Wagstaff, "and it would be extremely difficult to check all of them."

But what of the person who contracts Aids two, three or even 20 years after taking out a life insurance policy in good faith? Mr Wagstaff says there is no question of such a policy not being paid.

However, many companies are now looking very closely at all deaths reported since Aids made headline news. Hugh Raymond, of Scottish Widows, says policies that mature within five years of being taken out receive special attention.

"The trouble is that death certificates do not show that a person has died specifically of Aids," he says.

Victims of Aids lose their policies

The problem of identifying high-risk groups is not confined to the life insurance industry. In April the Bristol-based Western Provident Association, which provides private hospital cover, announced that it would no longer pay benefit to people suffering from sexually transmitted diseases.

David Ashdown, the marketing manager, said this, in effect, meant Aids. "While no special questions are asked, we insure on an annual contract," he said. "If a patient is found to have Aids, their contract is not renewed."

That must be bad news not only for homosexuals but also for the National Health Service.

Keith Sharp

The man who could not sell his shares

"You can sell your shares whenever you wish," trumpeted the blurb in the TSB promotional literature issued before the bank's offer for sale last September. It is not true, as Brian Ash, a reader of *The Times*, discovered this week.

Mr Ash took a TSB letter of allocation into the Savings branch of the National Westminster. The letter showed that Mr Ash was the rightful owner of 500 TSB shares. He was expecting the sale to provide him with £470 of spending money for his summer holiday.

No such luck. The securities clerk at the bank pointed out that the letter of allocation expired at 3pm last Wednesday, July 15. Result: no sale.

Mr Ash, however, telephoned TSB's share registrars, Lloyds Bank, at Goring-on-Sea, Sussex, and was dismayed to be told that they would not be sending out replacement documents of title to TSB's 2.1 million individual shareholders until July 30.

In the meantime, Lloyds Bank could not help Mr Ash any advice on how he could sell his TSB shares. TSB itself confirms there has to be a gap between expiry of the original letter of allocation and issue of replacement documents of title, so that the registrars can compile an up-to-date list of shareholders, but that this should not freeze sales of shares.

TSB says there should be no problem as long as shareholders give an undertaking to their bank to produce the replacement document of title when it is received at the end of this month.

Other readers who experience the same problem as Mr Ash should contact the TSB Share Information office on 01-606 7070.

Peter Gartland

A tall story?

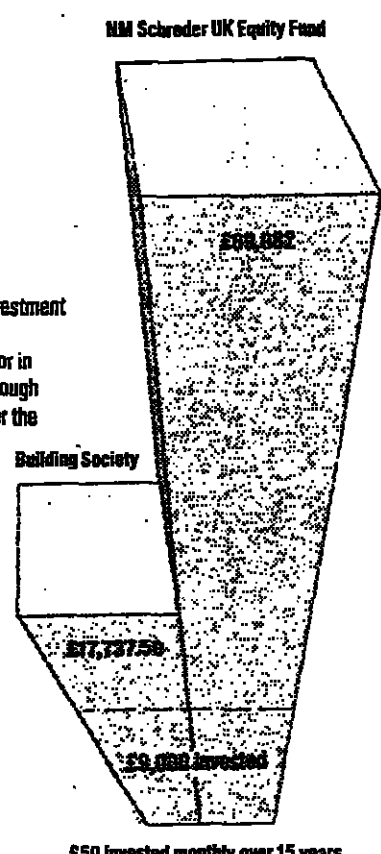
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*Figures: source Planned Savings to 1.6.87. Unit trusts Offer to Buy, net income reinvested. Building Societies, net income reinvested.



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Get the best out of Europe

One of the pleasures of a visit abroad is bringing back wines, spirits and other goods without paying the excise duties, writes Conal Gregory, Master of Wine. However, few people realize that the Customs allowances permit a wider scope, particularly for wine, than the traditional notices displayed at docks and airports indicate.

The basis for allowances is split into two groups depending on where the items have been purchased: either in another EEC state where any local taxes have been paid or through a duty-free shop, ship or aircraft. The second group also includes goods bought in non-EEC states.

The regulations and the prices favour the first group. Tax-paid prices in Paris, Milan or Amsterdam will normally be better than duty-free prices on ships and aircraft. Continental European tax-paid prices are also better than UK prices.

Four litres of wine can be brought into the UK if bought in a duty-free store, but wine investors will find it best to buy on a tax-paid basis from merchants or vineyard owners. They can then bring back eight litres (more than 11 bottles) of still wine or 72 corkscrews for every member of the family aged over 17,

although this means giving up 1.5 litres of spirits.

Alternatively, as the chart shows, five litres of wine (more than seven bottles) can be imported duty-free with the spirit allowance.

It will often pay to bring larger quantities and declare the surplus through the red channel. The duty rates on light wine not exceeding 15 per cent by volume are £8.23 per dozen bottles of 70cl, £8.59 for 73cl and £8.82 for 75cl.

Customs and Excise allow three litres of sparkling wine purchased in a tax-paid shop

DUTY-FREE ALLOWANCES			
Goods	Tax paid from EEC state	Non-EEC state	Non-EEC state
Still wine (litres)	5	2	
Still wine (bottles) of sparkling wine and fortified wines up to 22% vol OR (over 22%)	3	2	
Portwine (grammes)	75	50	
Tobacco (cigarettes)	0.375	0.25	
Cigars (100)	300	200	
Cigars (50)	150	100	
Cigars (25)	75	50	
Tobacco (grammes)	400	250	

or two litres from a duty-free shop. If you bring in extra, the duty is £14.56 per case of 12 bottles, which can make many Spanish Cava or Loire Méthode Champenoise sparklers very good value.

Fortified wines means higher strength lines such as port, Madeira and, usually, sherry. Good Solera Madeira and occasionally single vintage can be secured abroad. On port, select leading names, such as Croft, Cockburn, Dow, Fonseca, Taylor and Warr, for investment potential.

The additional duty on fortified wines beyond the allowance is £16.18 per dozen bottles for those not exceeding 18 per cent, such as Montilla, and £18.51 for those between 18 and 22 per cent, in both cases of 75cl size.

Take several of the better UK merchants' lists to compare prices and to be sure of buying vintages with potential. Many small Burgundy and champagne makers put up signs to indicate they will sell. This can involve complimentary tastings, but a better investment is usually made through a large merchant or supermarket. A notable exception is the Rhône in France and most of the West German estates. Both offer the chance to see wines that may not be on the larger lists, owing to small production runs.

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Source: Fidelity

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A contract note for your application, together with a brochure, will normally be sent within 2 days. Unit certificates will normally be sent within 10 working days of receipt of settlement. The current estimated gross yield for Fidelity Special Situations Trust is 0.48% at the offer price of 313.3p on 13th July 1987. Units may be sold on any day at the bid price ruling. You will receive a cheque within 7 working days of your receiving your renounced certificate. Accumulation units only are issued. Any income will be accumulated in the Trust and its value reflected in the unit price. Investors will receive a tax voucher on 15th October each year (1st date: 6th September). An initial charge of 5.25% is included in the offer price of units out of which the Managers may pay remuneration to qualified intermediaries. Rates are available upon request. The Trust pays an annual charge to the Managers out of income (or capital if there is insufficient income) of 1% plus VAT of the value of the fund. Check your investment prices and yields daily in the Financial Times, Daily Telegraph, Oracle page 5*4 and on Press 1 881506. Trustee: Midland Bank Trust Company Limited. Managers: Fidelity Investment Services Limited, Registered Office: River Walk, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1DY. Registered Company Number: 2016595. The Trust is a widespread Trust security authorised by the Department of Trade and Industry. Member of the Unit Trust Association. Offer not open to United States citizens, residents of the United States or the Republic of Ireland.

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Fidelity MAKING MONEY MAKE MONEY

M&G PLANNED INCOME PORTFOLIO

For many people the most important aspect of investment is income. If you need an income which will grow, unit trusts can be ideal. And the table on the right illustrates M&G's successful record of providing an increasing income.

The M&G Planned Income Portfolio is based on five unit trusts, and provides ten income distributions spread over the year. At 15th July 1987 the estimated gross yield on the Portfolio was 3.74%, over 28% higher than that of the FT Actuarial All-Share Index. Income is paid net of basic-rate income tax. A yield of 3.74% a basic-rate taxpayer would expect to receive £273 in the first year, after tax, on an initial investment of £10,000.

The income from the four older trusts in the Portfolio has risen nearly three-and-a-half times since the Extra Yield Fund was launched in 1973. Past performance is no guarantee for the future, but the income from this Portfolio is expected to continue growing in future years. With a Bank or Building Society deposit, however, the income can vary only in line with the general level of interest rates.

In addition to generating income totalling £13,002, an investment of £10,000 in these unit trusts on 1st January 1977 would have grown to £75,602 by 15th July 1987. In contrast a comparable Building Society deposit would still be worth only £10,000 and income from it would have totalled just £9,215 over the same period.

However, you should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

The five funds described here are all designed to produce above average and increasing income.

DIVIDEND FUND aims for a yield about 50% higher than that of the FT Actuarial All-Share Index, from a wide range of ordinary shares.

HIGH INCOME FUND and **EXTRA YIELD FUND** both aim for a yield about 60% higher than that of the FT Actuarial All-Share Index, from portfolios of ordinary shares.

CONVERSION INCOME FUND aims to provide a similar return, but its portfolio of ordinary shares has a strong bias towards smaller companies.

COMPARISON TABLE

Annual income from an investment of £10,000

Year	Building Society	Four M&G unit trusts
1977	£ 850	£ 843
1978	£ 779	£ 984
1979	£ 996	£1,110
1980	£1,200	£1,265
1981	£1,056	£1,284
1982	£1,003	£1,292
1983	£ 825	£1,338
1984	£ 849	£1,423
1985	£ 907	£1,617
1986	£ 750	£1,846

NOTES:
1 Net of tax to a basic-rate taxpayer.
2 Based on the Building Societies Association's recommended rate of return + 1% on fully paid shares.
3 £2,500 investment in each of M&G Dividend, High Income, Extra Yield, and Conversion Income Funds on 1st January 1977. (The M&G International Income Fund is not included as it was not available until 1985.)

READ THIS TABLE BEFORE INVESTING	DIVIDEND FUND	HIGH INCOME FUND	CONVERSION INCOME FUND	EXTRA YIELD FUND	INTERNATIONAL INCOME FUND
Launch date	May '84	April '89	Feb. '73	Nov. '73	May '85
Final price	50p	50p	50p	50p	50p
Price of income units at 15th July 1987	657.5p x d	517.6p x d	307.7p	373.9p	75.8p
Estimated current gross yield	3.55%	3.55%	3.66%	3.68%	4.05%
Rise in Fund offer price since launch	+1215.0%	+835.2%	+515.4%	+647.8%	+51.6%
Rise in FT All Share Index over same period	+1035.2%	+643.7%	+525.2%	+603.6%	+91.9%
Distribution dates	15 January 15 July	31 January 31 July	31 March 30 September	1 May 1 November	1 June 1 December
Trustee	Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited	City & Midland Bank Plc	Courts & Co.	Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited	Lloyds Bank Plc

Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The difference between the "offer" price (at which you buy units) and the "bid" price (at which you sell) is normally 5%. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price and an annual charge of up to 1% of each Fund's value - currently 1% (except International Income, which is 1%) - plus VAT is deducted from gross income. Income is distributed on the appropriate dates net of basic rate tax. You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for sale or purchase will be due for settlement 2 to 3 weeks later. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request. All the Funds are wider-range investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

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DIVIDEND	HIGH INCOME	CONVERSION INCOME	EXTRA YIELD	INTERNAT. INCOME
£	£	£	£	£

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Stick with winners

Unit trust investors should think hard before venturing too far from home, particularly when the local market looks so healthy. RICHARD NEWELL advises on investment in UK growth funds.



Richard Newell, "solid core" going to be the household name of tomorrow. The manager will also invest in larger companies whose shares may have fallen out of favour, but where he thinks the company is due for a re-rating by the market.

Apart from companies whose main retail business is unit trusts, such as M&G, Save & Prosper, Henderson, Fidelity and Framlington, the large banks and insurance companies also market growth funds.

The average UK growth unit trust has appreciated by a very healthy 50 per cent over the past 12 months and by 120 per cent over the past two years. Although most investors would be very happy with that sort of return, the figures do conceal how varied unit trust performance can be and how important it is to invest with a company that can show consistently good performance.

For example, the best-performing UK growth fund over the year to July 1 was Govett Special Opportunities, which increased in value by 109 per cent. Contrast that with the 21.7 per cent rise produced by the Barclays Unicorn Growth Accumulator fund.

Although the Barclays Unicorn return is still far better than you could have got from your building society, when you compare it with the rise in the UK stock market since last year it is pretty appalling.

'It's quite a fun fund to start with'

As the name of the top-performing Govett fund suggests, this sector contains some specialist funds that probably carry a higher degree of risk, but also a greater potential reward.

Ian Kennedy, the manager of Govett's Special Opportunities fund, says: "It's quite a fun one to start with but I wouldn't advise people to put all their money into it. They should look on it as part of their overall portfolio strategy."

This fund, and others such as Manulife's Smaller Companies and Brown Shipley's Recovery, rely on the fund manager's ability to spot the small company stocks that are

Confederation Life has a UK growth fund that has grown in size from £5 million in 1982 to £185 million in 1987. The company has now launched a UK smaller companies fund (the offer period ends on July 26). The fund manager, Nigel Beidas, says: "A lot of the growth in the existing fund was built from smaller companies. Setting up a specialist fund after the market has risen so far obviously calls for a high degree of selection, but we're confident that there are still good opportunities."

Confederation has also tended towards unfashionable stocks and is not afraid to hold on to them for four or five years before seeing a profit.

Investors in UK smaller companies funds have generally done very well. This is probably because these funds require a lot more attention, and if the manager is prepared to provide that attention, the fund will perform that much better.

Mr Kennedy says: "We do include some large firms in the Special Opportunities fund, but it is mostly the small and medium-sized companies where you have the greatest growth potential."

Names that bring in the customers

A few groups have tried to attract new money by selling the idea of a unit trust that invests only in household names. Fidelity's Famous Names trust, Henderson's Best of British and County's Great British Companies are prime examples of this marketing ploy.

Hilary Smith, of Fidelity's Famous Names, says: "This is much more suitable for first-time investors than a special situations fund. It invests primarily in companies with a high profile and this gives the investor something to identify with and something that's reasonably easy to follow."

The famous names include Midland and Barclays banks, British Gas, Cadbury Schweppes, Allied Lyons, Pilkington and Glaxo.

Henderson's Best of British invests only in companies that form part of the FTSE 100 index, the Stock Exchange's index of the top 100 UK companies by capitalization.

Although this "blue chip" approach does provide an element of safety, with fewer than 40 stocks in the fund it also lends itself to above



Hilary Smith: "easy to follow" average volatility. If one constituent stock takes a dive, the fund's performance would be more than slightly affected.

Richard Smith, of Henderson, is unperturbed: "We would expect it to follow the market," he says. As the fund has been running for only a couple of months, it is too early to tell whether this is so.

The Fidelity and County funds certainly seem to have followed the market. The FT All Share Index has risen by around 36 per cent over the past six months. The Famous Names and Great British Companies funds have risen 37.3 per cent and 35.5 per cent respectively over the same period.

UK GROWTH FUNDS/1

One such investment that has served him well is Randworth Trust, a company that was trading at 50p before Christmas 1986, and in just over six months has become a sizeable property company with a sixfold increase in its share price. Mr Kennedy bought a substantial stake in Randworth and the fund has reaped the benefits.

This is an exceptional case, though, and investors are unlikely to see such results from their investment in a mere half year.

Manager benefits from close contact

The most successful fund managers are those who have good contacts and who are prepared to be patient. Henderson has a number of UK growth funds, but its most successful has been the Recovery fund. According to Henderson's Richard Smith, it has "a solid core of long-term quality growth stocks and small companies with the ability to grow faster than average".

Having pinpointed the recovery situations, a fund manager must be prepared to stick with them for three to five years, if necessary. Mr Smith cites Johnson Matthey as a good example of this strategy. Investing when the bullion company was out of favour in the market and holding on to it past the initial recovery.

The Henderson Capital Growth trust, says Mr Smith, has performed badly because "we stuck to major companies which were good performers in the 1970s, while the market emphasis has switched to recovery and income stocks because of a dramatic improvement in profits and dividends".

Investors wanting to speculate a little in smaller companies and recovery situations would be better off in a unit trust than trying to invest directly in the shares themselves.

Although, within the confines of a unit trust, this sort of thing doesn't look particularly high-risk, it has to be remembered that the fund manager is benefiting from much closer contact with the market, so the risk is a calculated one.

"I honestly believe that investors are better off not trying to do this sort of thing themselves," says Mr Kennedy. "It is very difficult for a private investor to hold out after a loss. He will usually end up selling at the bottom."

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M&G Recovery	3,846	12,915	44,077
M&G Dividend	3,544	12,247	31,506
M&G SECOND	3,125	11,386	28,146
FT Industrial Ordinary Index	3,071	9,566	20,826
Building Society Savings Account	1,823	4,673	8,884

Source: Planned Savings. All performance figures include income reinvested net of basic-rate tax. The figures for the M&G Funds are bid prices; you should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

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NATIONAL SAVINGS

FAMILY MONEY/7

The gentle art of investing at the right time

Having chosen the UK growth trust you think is going to perform best, the next thing you have to consider is whether this is actually the right time to be investing. Most fund managers would say now is always the best time to invest, and if you are taking the long-term view, there is probably a grain of truth in that.

Nigel Beidas, at Confederation Life, says: "I think the best way to invest in a unit trust is just to put the money into the fund of your choice and forget about it for five years. Some years it will rise by 40 per cent and in others it will only rise by 10 per cent, but at the end of the five years you should have yourself a very reasonable return."

Unfortunately, investors are notoriously short-sighted. If the fund does nothing in the first six months they think they've been had. But the real

UK GROWTH FUNDS/2

test of a unit trust group's if prices fell back a little during the next few weeks.

"In any bull market you get froth and I think the market is currently frothy," he says. "A lot of situations have done very well and some have been overbought."

Mr Beidas says: "I suspect the market has to consolidate a bit. We don't have any qualms about the long-term picture, though."

Fidelity's Hilary Smith agrees that the summer months will see prices looking a little flat, but on balance she expects the market to rise by 5 to 10 per cent from the current levels by the end of the year.

For 1988 she is less confident. "We would probably

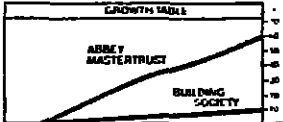


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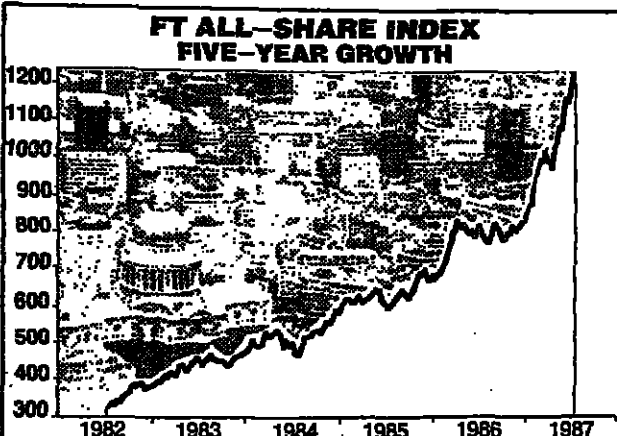
General Information: You can buy or sell units on an everyday basis. Written confirmation will be sent on receipt of your application and a Unit Certificate issued within 10 working days. Payment for units is made by direct debit from your bank account. Units are sold at a discount to their face value. The price of units is shown in the Financial Times and Daily Telegraph. An annual charge of 1.5 per cent is levied on the unit's value. The unit's value is shown in the Financial Times and Daily Telegraph. The unit's value is shown in the Financial Times and Daily Telegraph. The unit's value is shown in the Financial Times and Daily Telegraph.

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abilities is how it performs over the medium and long term, that is, two to five years. For example, Prolific's Special Situations trust has risen just above the average over the past six months, which puts it in 41st place in the league tables. But over five years it is number one, having risen by 590 per cent.

So anyone who had invested £1,000 with Prolific five years ago, would now have an investment worth £6,900. The average five-year performance for all UK growth funds is significantly less, at plus 327 per cent, but that is still a very respectable return by any measure.

You will be very lucky to pick the number one fund but as long as you are up in the top quarter of the league tables over one year or more you will have made the right choice.

Of course, if your fund is performing below the average after a year, you should ask the unit trust group why that is so. If it cannot give a satisfactory answer you should take your money elsewhere.

The UK stock market has performed remarkably well in the first six months of 1987. So if you invest now, are you making the classic investment mistake of buying at the top? The short answer to that is probably No.

Although the post-election



Peter Edwards: "on sidelines" euphoria seems to have been short-lived, the UK stock market remains the one with the greatest potential of all major international markets.

Richard Smith, at Henderson, says: "The trend is undoubtedly upwards. The expected flood of foreign investment may not have happened as expected straight after the election, but I think it will materialize. Small companies will continue to do well. There are still terrific opportunities in the UK for small companies with able management."

Ian Kennedy, at John Govett, is still very bullish of the UK market, though he says he would not be surprised

have a few reservations," she says. "There are one or two danger signs further down the road. We must watch very closely for any overheating in the economy. The market itself is almost fully valued so it's really on the basis of strong cash flow that we are positive about the UK."

"Any really strong move in the market must be on the



Clive Fenn-Smith: rewards basis of renewed fundamental value.

Despite being extremely confident of the UK stock market, Peter Edwards, of Premier Unit Trust Brokers in Bristol, is exercising a degree of restraint. "We think it prudent not to go overboard just yet," he says. "Tempting though it is to thin out a bit overseas and boost UK coverage, prices may yet get a little cheaper. And overseas prices themselves could go up a bit, if the pound comes back further and the dollar strengthens."

"There are so many ifs, of course — there always are — but unless someone says, 'The Japanese are buying', we'll sit on the sidelines for now."

In uncertain times such as these, investors must show patience with their unit trusts. There will be times when the fund will not perform well, but as long as there is an overall upward trend in the unit price, you should not consider redeeming the investment. Unit trusts will rise consistently only when the markets are rising consistently, which they rarely do for more than a few months.

The Unit Trust Association's former chairman, Clive Fenn-Smith, said recently: "Most equity markets have performed exceptionally strongly over the last few years."

"It is important that investors should remember this and recognize that they have to accept some element of risk, particularly in the short term, in order to achieve rewards from equity investment."

● All figures courtesy of Opal Statistics



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Recovery	15 Jun and 15 Dec	33.2	2.00	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
UK Smaller Cos	15 Apr and 15 Oct	54.4	1.84	Bank of Scotland

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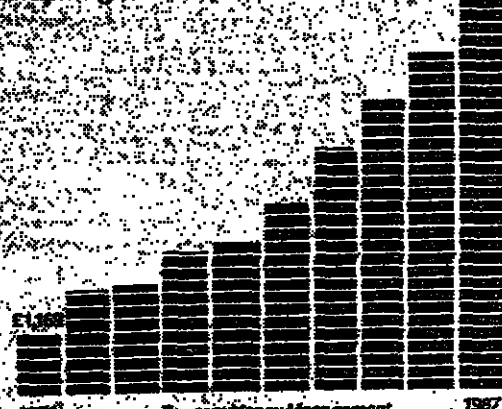
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LEGAL AND FINANCIAL

Bring on the Perrier

As competition intensifies to recruit the finest graduate talent in the land, some law firms are employing the most ingenious methods to get their message across.

In particular Herbert Smith, Macfarlanes and Dickinson Dees are to be congratulated for making use of an interesting subliminal technique during their appearance in the careers information video *Which Firm of Solicitors?* released to university careers advisers earlier this year.

Stealing a march on Gordon Dadds, Clarke Willmott & Clarke and Powell McGrath & Spencer who also appear in the video, Herbert Smith and Macfarlanes resorted to the liberal display of Perrier bottles in an effort to show just how smart and trendy they are.

Whether poking out clearly from behind a solicitor's back at Dickinson Dees, or being hinted at by a centre-screen golden bottle-top at Herbert Smith, the Perrier bottle soon became the motif of what dynamic, young and successful solicitors are all about.

The climax comes at Macfarlanes when a troupe of green bottles is allowed to dance naked and unashamed three abreast down the middle of the table during a partners' meeting. The message was clear. Slick lawyers think *Perrier*. If you want to join the in-crowd do your articles in the firms where the Perrier flows.

Of course not everyone can make it into video. But do not despair. The glossy recruitment brochure is another place to show your P factor to the impressionable young undergraduate.

In the case of Barlow Lyde & Gilbert, for example, the Perrier bottle fits in totemic splendour in the middle of page 3 surrounded by a group of grinning partners.

And next year, for certain, no piece of graduate recruitment literature will be complete without a display of ten green bottles hanging on the wall with article clerks slung alongside them in joyful attendance.

It is a sign of the times, perhaps, that distinguished firms are resorting to such extreme devices in their effort to win the attention of prospective article clerks. Forbidden to recruit actively before September 1, the next six weeks should see a lot of quiet discussion and then a scramble for the best of the graduate crop in the autumn.

In getting ready for this all the major firms report that they need to work both harder and longer to demonstrate what they have to offer.

Milk-round visits, vacation courses, university presentations, buffet-lunches, glossy brochures, videos (as well as endorsement by fizzy water) have all become well-established techniques for bringing your name before prospective applicants. But with such pressures on staff the reality is that firms are having to be more and more inventive to stay in

Competition is intense among law firms to attract the most talented to become article clerks. Edward Fennell describes the way firms pull out all the stops



the running as the demand for able graduates constantly spirals upwards.

Take Simmons & Simmons. "In 1980 we were recruiting about 15 article clerks each year," said partner John Calvert, "but now the figure has gone up to 40. In order to achieve that number of young men and women at the right quality we have to work very hard. We can't afford to limit ourselves in the kind of people we would consider."

Long gone, therefore, are the days when only applicants from Oxbridge and London would do. As Charles Plant, the recruitment partner at Herbert Smith, pointed out, he goes to 15 institutions to fill his 40 places. He is looking for people who are good academically, commercially aware, and with the character to become congenial colleagues.

Much the same profile was given by John Calvert at S&S which now visits Hull, Leeds, Newcastle and (this year for the first time) Keele as well as the established "first division" universities in order to make contacts with students and generate interest among academics.

In "selling" his firm John Calvert emphasises factors like friendliness and good promotion prospects. But recognizes that most firms will be projecting themselves in the same way and that any innovation will be promptly imitated elsewhere.

"What we try to do, therefore, is get across the atmosphere of the firm. Once they have come down here for interview and met our existing article clerks their interest is usually hooked."

Inducements to join the firms are now extensive. With an average starting

salary in London of around £10,000, it is a world away from that period after the war when it was an unpaid privilege to be given articles by a firm of solicitors.

Money, though, is not everything. Although Clifford Chance recently bewailed the fact that some applicants had been offered more money by merchant banks, the consensus seems to be that those who are genuinely committed to the law will come in irrespective of what they are paid while in training.

What really turns on graduate interest, of course, is the possibility of a partnership. Without promising anything in detail there is a wealth of nudge, nudge, wink, wink to imply that if you are energetic, hard working, extremely intelligent and have a face that fits you will have your name on the paper within the twinkle of an eye.

The coda to this come-on at the recruitment stage is that naturally you are indeed a paragon of all the virtues, so success, if you join Perrier, Peddle and Person will assuredly be yours.

Projecting the right image, though, is a subtle matter. When Barlow Lyde & Gilbert ran out of space they saw it as an opportunity to relocate and moved into sumptuous accommodation in No 1 Finsbury Avenue. Frankly, no visiting student could fail to be impressed by the excitement of this marvellous new building and, as a partner of Richard Dedman explained, the fact that BLG now have a much broader base of work than of old is a powerful pull.

"We'll only be taking on about ten article clerks this year but we hope that each one we recruit will remain with us after qualifying," said Mr Dedman.

For those ten places Mr Dedman will probably receive about 250 applications and they will be gradually whittled down to a final interview list of 30. From there it is a matter of trying to second-guess how many offers you need to make to ensure that all the slots will be filled.

"The problem is that all the leading firms are chasing after the same people," said Mr Dedman, "so best applicants get lots of offers."

Getting "a fair share" of the elite is the aim of most recruitment partners. "You can tell the outstanding ones as soon as they come through the door," said John Calvert of S&S. "They have presence and personality as well as high intelligence and motivation. They are people who are financially aware, want to get things done and be able to attract new clients as well as keep existing ones. They represent the future of the firm."

No matter how hard they work, however, what concerns many small to medium-sized firms are the rumours of the vast numbers of article clerks due to be scooped up from this September by large operations like Linklaters. With so much work being dealt with in London the growth could almost be mortal.

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Astronaut Prince to relish the trip

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

Steve Canham has bright prospects of riding a treble on Calista, Pharaoh's Pride and Astronaut Prince at Newmarket today as he continues his attempt to wrestle the championship from arch-rival Pat Eddery.

Following that good effort at York eight days ago when he was beaten a neck by Athens Gate, ASTRONAUT PRINCE is taken to win the Food Brokers Trophy.

Several factors have influenced my decision to give him preference over Minkum and Brozewing. Firstly, he will be racing over a mile again. On Knavesmire he appeared to not quite last home over nine furlongs.

Secondly, he will be carrying only nine stone today at York. He had 10st 10lb on the 14th, which is a lot for a three-year-old. He will notice the difference.

Having won over a mile at Thirsk and Goodwood, Astronaut Prince seems likely to appreciate today's distance more than Minkum whose wins have been over seven furlongs.

Also his record indicates that he is better equipped to cope with a sudden change in going — the weathermen say we should expect some than Brozewing whose best form has been on firm ground.

PHAROAH'S PRIDE, my selection for the Frimley Maiden Stakes, is said to be yet another promising two-year-old in Henry Cecil's care. Being by Mumay's Pet out of a mare by Minkum, he certainly has a pedigree that combines many qualities.

GALITZIN, Canham's ride in the Savory Mill Stakes, is trained by Clive Brittain. Last time out he was beaten only a neck at Sandown by the useful Burkan. Now I expect him to just get the better of the fancied newcomer, Single Shooter.

Twelve months ago Guy Harwood took the proverbial sideburner to crack a nut when he saddled Sedem for the Citrus Spring Stakes for amateurs. Now he is resorting to the same tactic by running WAYAK, the runaway winner of a similar race at Lingfield.

While Canham remains at Newmarket, Willie Ryan, his capable young understudy at Warren Place, travels to Newbury where he has three choice rides for Henry Cecil on



Pat Eddery: double shift at Newbury and Nottingham

Humble Pie, Russian Steppe and Water Cay.

My feeling is that he should win on the first and the last of that trio but that Russian Steppe will find HEVSHOTT hard to beat in the Morland Brewery Trophy, just so long as that horse consents to give of his best.

At Royal Ascot, Heyshott refused to race past blank. At Haydock the time before, though, he had done very well indeed. Travel Mystery, Ebbolito and Pica.

If he is in the right mood he is capable of winning again. If not, he will be beaten either by Russian Steppe or Failing who are as genuine as the day is long. It is as simple as that.

A much safer bet in my opinion is HUMBLE PIE to win the Manton Rosebowl Stakes. Being by Karna Fox out of a So Blessed mare who is closely related to Parsimony and Mumay's Pet, Humble Pie sports a very fast pedigree indeed. And quick she looked at Yarmouth first time out when he bolted in by three lengths. In the morning, however, he has been good.

Stable companion WATER CAY should only have to run as well as he did at Royal Ascot where he split Ten Again and Stevenston Stakes, although I am a little afraid of On The Staff, who was considered good enough to contest the Oaks.

So too was BALABINA who is now my selection for the Walsingham Maiden Stakes. Hopefully her performance at Epsom, where she was tailed off, was too bad to be true. It was certainly in stark contrast to her initial promising first run behind Percy's Lass and Three

Any rain that falls at Ripon will be like sweet music to TERMINATOR as he attempts to win the Bell-Ringer Handicap, having shown a liking for some cut in the ground at York last time.

At Ayr the blending of the Scottish Derby and the Land of Burns Stakes has resulted in three older horses taking on three-year-olds, although I am not quite sure why this Mecca-sponsored race still incorporates the word Derby now that older horses are running.

ASCOT KNIGHT, who finally lost his maiden tag at Newmarket 10 days ago, would only have to run as well as he did against Half A Year and Reference Point earlier in the season to win it.

After racing at Newbury, Pat Eddery returns to Nottingham where CLEAR HER STAGE (7.15) and LINEBACKER (8.45) hold solid chances.

Blinkered first time

NEWCASTLE: 4.00 Oyst. 4.50 Gold. 5.00 Oyst. 5.10 Gold. 5.20 Oyst. 5.30 Gold. 5.40 Oyst. 5.50 Gold. 6.00 Oyst. 6.10 Gold. 6.20 Oyst. 6.30 Gold. 6.40 Oyst. 6.50 Gold. 7.00 Oyst. 7.10 Gold. 7.20 Oyst. 7.30 Gold. 7.40 Oyst. 7.50 Gold. 8.00 Oyst. 8.10 Gold. 8.20 Oyst. 8.30 Gold. 8.40 Oyst. 8.50 Gold. 9.00 Oyst. 9.10 Gold. 9.20 Oyst. 9.30 Gold. 9.40 Oyst. 9.50 Gold. 10.00 Oyst. 10.10 Gold. 10.20 Oyst. 10.30 Gold. 10.40 Oyst. 10.50 Gold. 11.00 Oyst. 11.10 Gold. 11.20 Oyst. 11.30 Gold. 11.40 Oyst. 11.50 Gold. 12.00 Oyst. 12.10 Gold. 12.20 Oyst. 12.30 Gold. 12.40 Oyst. 12.50 Gold. 13.00 Oyst. 13.10 Gold. 13.20 Oyst. 13.30 Gold. 13.40 Oyst. 13.50 Gold. 14.00 Oyst. 14.10 Gold. 14.20 Oyst. 14.30 Gold. 14.40 Oyst. 14.50 Gold. 15.00 Oyst. 15.10 Gold. 15.20 Oyst. 15.30 Gold. 15.40 Oyst. 15.50 Gold. 16.00 Oyst. 16.10 Gold. 16.20 Oyst. 16.30 Gold. 16.40 Oyst. 16.50 Gold. 17.00 Oyst. 17.10 Gold. 17.20 Oyst. 17.30 Gold. 17.40 Oyst. 17.50 Gold. 18.00 Oyst. 18.10 Gold. 18.20 Oyst. 18.30 Gold. 18.40 Oyst. 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